

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 439.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]

TEMPERANCE LINE OF
PACKETS from LONDON to AUSTRALIA, calling at Plymouth.—For PORT PHILLIP and SYDNEY, calling off Adelaide with passengers and their luggage only, the beautiful new ship HISTORIA, A 1, 850 tons burthen, T. R. MOWATT, Commander, to sail March 15, lying in the East India Docks. She offers unusual advantages to passengers, having upwards of 7 feet height between decks, and great width of beam. The ventilation will be made most perfect, as, in addition to the ordinary appliances, she will be fitted with the ventilating apparatus recommended by Mrs. Chisholm. Baths and wash-houses will be erected on deck, and a library of 200 volumes will be supplied for the use of the passengers. A minister and an experienced surgeon will accompany the vessel. Passage-money for single persons and families 20 guineas. A few open berths for single men, at 18 guineas. For freight or passage apply to Griffiths, Newcombe, and Co., 27, Rood-lane, Fenchurch-street, London.

A JUNIOR ASSISTANT.—Wanted by C. ROSE, draper and clothier, Dorking.

SITUATION WANTED, as NURSERY
GOVERNESS or COMPANION.—M. M., Post-office, Godalming.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.—E. PARSONS, Draper, Gloucester, is in want of a respectable Youth as an APPRENTICE. A moderate Premium required.

WANTED, by a Trained and Experienced Person, a RE-ENGAGEMENT in a Girl's British School.—Apply by letter addressed to C. A., care of Mr. Freeman, 69, Fleet-street, London.

TO PRINTERS, &c.—Wanted immediately, a JUNIOR ASSISTANT, or one who has served part of his time, if well recommended, would be treated with.—Apply to Mr. J. S. CLARKE, Advertiser-office, Peterborough.

TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS.—A Gentleman wishes to Purchase a Share as ACTIVE PARTNER, in a Liberal Newspaper, either in the South of England, the Midland Counties, or South Wales.—Address, J. R., 3, Buckingham-villas, Clifton, Bristol.

TO PRINTERS, STATIONERS, &c.—A Young Man, of active business habits, is desirous of investing about £700 in an established business, where his services would be required. References exchanged.—Apply by letter only, stating full particulars, to W. J., care of Turner and Son, upholsterers, Honduras House, St. John's-road, Hoxton.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—Wanted a Respectable Young Man, as ASSISTANT. Also, a Female, as an Apprentice, or Improver. Members of a Christian Church preferred. Apply to Mr. E. COULSON, draper, Northampton, stating age, salary, &c.

PARTNERSHIP.—A Young Man with Energy and Industry, who has £100 at his command, wishes to meet with a Partner, who has the same or an equivalent.—Address, F. F., care of S. Eyre, 19, Bonville-street, Fleet-street.

TO IRONMONGERS' ASSISTANTS.—Wanted a Young Man in the GENERAL TRADE, in a large establishment in Yorkshire. One possessing some experience in Mill and Machine Ironmongery preferred.—Address, E. T. L., Nonconformist Office.

TO DRAPERS.—To be disposed of, in that Fashionable Watering Place, Sidmouth, Devon, an old established Business, where a profitable trade has been carried on upwards of forty years. Reference is allowed to either of the following firms.—Messrs. Cook, Sons, and Co., St. Paul's Churchyard; Messrs. Ellis and Everington, St. Paul's Churchyard; Messrs. J. and B. Morley, Wood-street; and Messrs. Morrison, Dillon, and Co., Fore-street. For particulars, apply to Mr. M. HALL, Sidmouth.

TO PERSONS POSSESSING FURNITURE.—A Surgeon, having a larger house than he requires, beautifully situated in one of the main suburban roads on the Surrey side of the Thames, wishes to meet with a family or an individual needing ten or twelve rooms for letting, or otherwise. Terms moderate. An arrangement may be made for his board in lieu of rent.—Apply personally, if possible, to F., 47, Sloane-square, Chelsea, before eleven a.m., or from two till half-past p.m.

TO IRONMONGERS' ASSISTANTS.—Wanted, in the GENERAL TRADE, a respectable Young Man (to reside either in the house or out). One desiring a permanent situation, and a member of a Christian Church, preferred.—Apply to WILLIAM WELLS, Ironmonger, &c., Saxmundham, Suffolk.

TO MINISTERS, PROFESSIONAL MEN, AND OTHERS.—The OXFORD MIXED DOESKIN TROUSERS, price 18s. Stock for choice, or to measure. S. BATTAM, Coat and Trousers Maker, 160, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD; four doors south of Shoobred and Co.'s. Patterns of the Doeskin, and Directions for Measuring, sent free, by post.

TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS.—A Retired Clergyman, having been restored to Health in a few Days, after many Years of great Nervous Suffering, is anxious to make known to others the means of cure, and will therefore send (free), on receiving a stamped envelope, properly addressed, a copy of the prescription used.—Direct, the Rev. E. DOUGLASS, 18, Holland-street, Brixton, London.

CHAPEL WANTED.—Wanted to rent a SMALL CHAPEL that will accommodate not less than 300 persons, within three miles of London.—Address to X. Y., care of Dr. Lexton, 5, Frederick-place, Upper Kennington-lane.

CHAPEL FOR SALE, at Stoke, Devon-
port, containing about 300 sittings, on a lease of which above sixty years are unexpired.—For particulars apply to Mr. HOBLING, 20, Stoke-terrace, Devonport.

TO GENTLEMEN ENGAGED DURING
THE DAY.—A well-furnished BEDROOM, with or without PARTIAL BOARD, may be obtained in a highly respectable house, where no other inmates are taken.—Apply to P., 29, Stanhope-street, Hampstead-road.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.—A Vacancy occurs in a first-class BOOKSELLING, STATIONERY, and LIBRARY BUSINESS, in an extensive sea-port town, for a well educated Youth as an APPRENTICE. He will have the best facilities for acquiring proficiency in the several branches of the trade, and will be received as an inmate in the family of the Resident Partner.—For terms apply to FORBES & MARSHALL, (late Fletcher), Booksellers, Stationers, and Binders, Southampton.

A GENTLEMAN is open to an offer for Thirteen Quarter Volumes, half-bound and in capital condition, of the *London Chronicle*—a newspaper published thrice a-week, from December 31, 1785, to June 30, 1792; and containing many curious facts connected with the court and family of George III.—the stirring events of the "first" French Revolution, Impachment of Warren Hastings, Debates in the English and Irish Parliaments, with an interesting mass of provincial news.—Address, C. O., Nonconformist Office.

TO BUTCHERS.—Wanted a Respectable Young Man as SHOPMAN (he would be treated as one of the family), where a Good Family Trade is doing. He must write a good hand, as he will be expected to assist at the Books. A Dissenter would be preferred, and he would be expected to conform to the habits of a teetotal family. No objection to a Young Man just out of his apprenticeship wishing for further improvement.—Application to be made, stating age, salary, and reference, to WILLIAM COLE, West Market-place, Cirencester.

SURREY MISSION.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Rev. J. HILL'S CHAPEL, Clapham, on Thursday, April 20th.
Rev. Thomas Binney will preach in the morning.

JOHN B. GOUGH.—The Committee of the London Temperance League have the honour to announce that Mr. GOUGH will deliver an ADDRESS to the WORKING CLASSES, on MONDAY, APRIL 24, in EXETER-HALL, STRAND.

Admission to the Body of the Hall, Free. To the Platform, 1s. each. Tickets for the Platform will be ready on the 4th of April, and may be had at 337, Strand.

Mr. GOUGH will also deliver Orations in London as follows:—
April 25 and 26 Exeter Hall.
28 At Willis's-rooms. (A Meeting for Ladies only.)
May 1 Abney Chapel, Stoke Newington.
4 Camberwell Hall, Camberwell.
9, 10, 11 Exeter Hall.
WM. TWEEDIE, } Hon. Secs.
JOHN PHILLIPS, }

London Temperance League Office and Reading-room, 337, Strand.

CONGREGATIONAL PSALMODY.—The Rev. J. J. WAITE will Lecture, Explain his System, and Conduct Classes at BIRMINGHAM—TUESDAY EVENINGS, MARCH 26; APRIL 11, 25; MAY 2, 9; and FRIDAY EVENINGS, APRIL 7, 21.

PRESCOT—WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, from MARCH 29 to MAY 3.

ST. HELEN'S—THURSDAY EVENINGS, from MARCH 30 to MAY 4.

"THE HALLELUJAH," Enlarged Edition, a collection of Choice and Standard Tunes, Ancient and Modern, with Chants, Sanctuses, Doxologies, &c., published by Mr. Snow, 35, Paternoster-row, will be used in these Classes—Part I. at Birmingham and St. Helen's, and Part II. at Prescott.

Books and Memoranda admitting to the Course may be had in the several localities.

Communications to the Rev. J. J. WAITE, to be forwarded to his residence, 3, Moorfield-place, Hereford.

EAGLE-STREET CHAPEL, RED-LION

SQUARE, HOLBORN.—The Committee appointed for the re-building of the above ancient Sanctuary beg to inform their friends, that the first list of contributions and promises will be published the first week in April. Those friends who will kindly assist them to accomplish this desirable object, will oblige by forwarding their subscriptions, or intentions, to either of the following gentlemen before the close of the present month:—
Mr. H. CRASWELLER, Treasurer, 36, Welbeck-street, Marylebone.

Rev. FRANCIS WILLS, Secretary, 4, Granville-square, Pentonville.

Mr. JOHN SHOVELLER, Assistant Secretary, 21, Lisle-street, Leicester-square.

Mr. PETER BROAD, 29, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden.

Mr. RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, 57, Chancery-lane.—Or of the Deacons:—
Mr. THOMAS MERRITT, 7, St. John's-square, Clerkenwell; Mr. JOHN BURBIDGE, 46, Rosoman-street, Clerkenwell; and Mr. WILLIAM PARKER, Houghton-street, Clare Market.

Or paid to the account of Eagle-street Chapel Building Fund, at Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, & Co., Lombard-street. Information being sent to Rev. Francis Wills, Secretary, as above; and all Post Office Orders are requested to be made payable at the General Post Office, to Francis Wills, when printed receipts will be immediately forwarded.

ART UNION of LONDON (by Royal Charter).—Every Subscriber of One Guinea will receive at once an impression of a large Plate of deep national and historical interest. "TILBURY FORT: WIND AGAINST TIDE," by J. T. Willmore, A.R.A., after C. Stanfield, R.A. The Subscription closes next Friday, 31st inst. Each prizeholder will be entitled to select for himself, as heretofore, a work of art from one of the Public Exhibitions.

GEORGE GOGWIN, } Honorary
LEWIS POCOCK, } Secretaries.
444, West Strand.

APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.—At the Half-yearly General Meeting of the members of this Society, held at the Congregational Library, Finsbury Circus, on Tuesday, March 28, 1854, the first four candidates from the subjoined list were elected to the benefits of the Institution,

Votes.	Votes.
Alfred Grant..... 500	Sarah Thomas..... 340
Martha Lawrence..... 387	Edward H. O'Neil..... 325
James B. Howell..... 373	Samuel Everett..... 180
John Serle..... 255	Cornelius Boast..... 146
George Stevens..... 246	

EDWARD SWAINE, Chairman.
J. VALE MUMMERY, } Hon. Secs.
W. WELLS KILPIN, }

* * * The Votes of the unsuccessful candidates will be carried to their account at the next Election.

SCRIPTURE-READER TO TURKEY.—SOLDIERS' FRIEND SOCIETY, instituted for the Purpose of Diffusing Religious Knowledge throughout the British Army. PATRON.—The Right Hon. the Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR, M.P. Office—15, EXETER HALL, STRAND, LONDON.

Several friends having suggested to the Committee the desirableness of sending Scripture-Readers to Turkey to labour among the British troops, they have decided on sending out one (and others to follow), as soon as funds can be obtained to meet the expenses. They have selected, as the first, Mr. Ray, who was himself formerly in the army, and is, consequently, thoroughly acquainted with the habits and ways of the men. His visits among them in the distribution of the Scriptures and tracts have been most cordially welcomed by the officers and men, and attended, there is every reason to believe, with the Divine blessing.

During the past year, the Society's Missionaries have been actively engaged, having held several meetings and distributed upwards of 25,000 Tracts among the men.

While the bodies of the Soldiers are being cared for, the Committee trust that Friends will come forward and enable them to care for their souls.

Sums received since last advertisement:—

A Friend, per Record..... £5 0 0	Captain Hartley..... £0 5 0
Mr. Dalton..... 3 0 0	Rev. W. T. Marsh..... 1 0 0
A Layman..... 1 0 0	Miss Milner..... 1 1 0

FOR SCRIPTURE-READER TO TURKEY.

Duchess of Manchester..... £3 0 0
Mrs. N. Dobbs..... 1 10 0
A Constant Reader of the "Record"..... 0 10 0
Miss Gregory..... 1 0 0
S. Marshall, Esq..... 5 5 0
Stephen A. Hankey, Esq..... 5 0 0
Miss Shepherd..... 2 2 0
An Officer's Sister (Mark xvi. 15)..... 5 0 0
Hon. Charlotte M. Thompson, annual, as long as needed..... 1 1 0

By Miss Marsh, of Beckenham:—

The Misses Hardy..... 5 0 0
Miss Emily Wildman..... 0 10 0
Hugh Astley, Esq..... 3 10 0

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. Burns, Esq., 17, Porten-road, Paddington; by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. A. Blake, at the Office, 15, Exeter-hall; by Rev. Dr. Marsh, Beckenham, Kent; by Messrs. Nisbet, Berners-street, Oxford-street; and at the Office of the *Record* and *Christian Times*.

CONGREGATIONAL PASTORS' INSURANCE AID SOCIETY.

TRUSTEES. John Morley, Esq. H. Bateman, Esq.
Joshua Field, Esq. John Crossley, Esq.
BANKERS.—Messrs. Rogers, Olding, and Co.

The object of this newly formed Society, is to assist Ministers in effecting an Insurance on behalf of their Widows and Children.

It proposes to secure a funded capital of at least £5,000 by the end of five years.

If promises securing this can be obtained in twelve months, John Remington Mills, Esq., will then give another £250.

Shall the Committee a year hence be in a position to ask for this sum? The wealthy members of the body and the churches generally can, and must decide the answer.

Generous donations or subscriptions for five years are immediately and urgently entreated.

EDWARD SWAINE, Treasurer.
HENRY BROMLEY, Secretary.

Congregational Library, March, 1854.

	£	s.	d.
John E. Mills, Esq.....	250	0	0
Stephen Olding, Esq.....	10	10	0
John Morley, Esq.....	10	10	0
Samuel Morley, Esq.....	10	10	0
Henry Bateman, Esq.....	10	10	0
Sir C. E. Eardley, Bart. (do. for five years).....	10	0	0
Joshua Wilson, Esq.....	10	0	0
H. Rutt, Esq.....	10	0	0
H. Roberts, Esq.....	10	0	0
Jos. W. Bromley, Esq..... (Life Subs.)	10	0	0
Richard Peck, Esq., Hazelwood.....	10	0	0
W. Flanders, Esq.....	10	0	0
Edward Swaine, Esq..... (per annum)	5	0	0
Josh. Field, Esq..... (do. for five years)	5	0	0
Charles Curling, Esq.....	5	0	0
Henry Bidgood, Esq.....	5	0	0
Thomas Spalding, Esq.....	5	0	0
Charles Reed, Esq..... (per annum)	2	2	0
T. E. Parson, Esq.....	2	2	0
Arthur Morley, Esq.....	2	2	0
Rev. T. Hinney..... (do. for five years)	2	0	0
J. G. Stapleton, Esq..... (Don.)	2	0	0
Ditto..... (Annual)	1	0	0

SARL'S ARGENTINE SILVER PLATE

IS THE BEST SUBSTITUTE FOR SOLID SILVER.

MANUFACTORY, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), LONDON.

THIS unrivalled production continues to give the same satisfaction as when first introduced by SARL and SONS, ten years ago. From its intrinsic value, and brilliant appearance, it far surpasses all other substitutes for solid silver. A new and magnificent stock has just been completed for the present season, to which public inspection is respectfully invited. It comprises SPOONS and FORKS, CORNER DISHES and COVERS, DISH COVERS, EPERGNEs and CANDELABRA with beautiful figures and classical designs, TEA and COFFEE EQUIPAGES, CRUET FRAMES, CAKE BASKETS, CANDLESSTICKS, SALVERS, TEA TRAYS, DECANTER STANDS, LIQUEUR FRAMES, TEA URNS and KETTLES, SOUP and SAUCE TUREENS, with every article requisite for the Dinner, Tea, or Breakfast Service. Pamphlets, containing drawings and prices of all the articles, gratis, and sent postage free to all parts of the kingdom. Any article may be had separately as a sample.

SOLE INVENTORS AND MANUFACTURERS,

SARL & SONS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House, London.)

GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

SARL and SONS, WATCH MANUFACTURERS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), invite attention to their new and very extensive STOCK of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES. The patterns are of the latest style, and the movements of the most highly-finished description. Every make can be had. The following prices will convey an outline of the Stock, combining economy with quality:—

	Gold Cases and Dials.	Silver Cases.
Watches of the Horizontal make, jewelled in four holes, main-taining power, 1st size.....	£ 10 0	£ 2 10 0
Doitto, 2nd size.....	8 10 0	3 10 0
Doitto, 3rd size.....	8 10 0	3 10 0
Patent lever movements, detached escapements, jewelled in four or six holes, 2nd size.....	9 9 0	3 10 0
Doitto with the flat, fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in ten extra holes, 3rd size.....	14 14 0	5 18 0

A written warranty for accurate performance is given with every watch, and a twelvemonths' trial allowed. A very extensive and splendid assortment of fine gold neck-chains; charged according to the weight of sovereigns.

A pamphlet, containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis.—Address,

SARL & SONS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House, London.)

KING WILLIAM STREET ROOMS,
24 and 25, KING WILLIAM STREET, CHARING-CROSS. DIORAMIC LECTURES, DAILY, at 3 o'clock.

1. TOMBS OF EGYPT—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
 2. NINEVEH (THE BURIED CITY)—Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
- Admission, 1s. Reserved Seats, 2s. Children, half-price.
DIORAMAS for the MILLION every Evening at 8 o'clock.
Subjects:—North American Indians—Palestine—Egypt—Popular Natural History—Nineveh.

Admission 2d., Reserved Seats 6d.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

THE distinctive features of this Association are—That all Education should be religious, but, at the same time, so free from Sectarian influence as to secure the sympathy and co-operation of all denominations of Evangelical Christians; and that the State, being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to Voluntary effort.

THE COMMITTEE having obtained ELIGIBLE APPOINTMENTS for those Pupils who have recently completed their course of study, have now a few VACANCIES in their Normal School for YOUNG MEN desirous of qualifying themselves for SCHOOLMASTERS.

The term of instruction is Twelve months; and the Course comprises, in addition to the usual routine of a sound English Education, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Biblical Studies, Singing, Drawing, and School Practice.

DOUGLAS ALLPORT, Secretary.

7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

THE NEW ASYLUM FOR FATHERLESS CHILDREN, STAMFORD-HILL.

INSTITUTED MAY 18, 1844.

SPECIAL APPEAL.

This Charity is established on liberal and not exclusive principles. It bestows its benefits on the Orphan through the whole period of infancy and childhood—that is, from the Birth till Fourteen and Fifteen years, without respect to Sex, or Place, or Age, or Religious Distinctions.

It has now 106 on the foundation; these are accommodated in two houses; these houses are now full, they are held from year to year, and the Board consequently cannot expend money on them, and much inconvenience and expense necessarily arise.

The Board, with the unanimous voice of the Subscribers, have purchased a most desirable property for the erection of a suitable Asylum.

They cannot, however, take another step prudently in the matter, till they realize £5,000 in addition to what they have received.

In these circumstances, while they pledge themselves to the strictest economy, they appeal with confidence to the friends of benevolence and of free institutions, for the means to carry out their designs. Surely they cannot plead in vain.

Because, whatever objection may be taken to other charities (and some are very ill-considered), none can rest against the fatherless child.

Because our extensive maritime and mercantile engagements are depriving continually so many families of their parent just when he is most needed.

Because the great evidence of pure and undefiled religion is, by the Highest Authority, to be found in relieving "the widow and the fatherless in their affliction."

Because the affliction of the Orphan makes the strongest appeal to all our most generous sensibilities—they suffer so early—they suffer so long—they suffer being so innocent—they suffer frequently while unconscious—before they can estimate their loss they have in fact lost everything—before they have left the cradle their earthly support has gone to the grave—they look round on a new and opening world, but see not their desolation.

Because many of us, equally exposed to this bitter affliction, have been preserved from it. We find ourselves in happy homes, which death has not so invaded; and we can hardly appreciate or enjoy our own blessings unless we help those who are bereaved of all—without home, without parents, without hope or joy.

LIONEL DE ROTHSCHILD, Treasurer.

ANDREW REED, Sub-Treasurer.

DAVID W. WIRE, } Hon. Secs.

THOMAS W. AVELING, }

Subscriptions thankfully received at the Bankers, Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Fritton, and Co.; by the Officers; by any of the Board of Management; and at the Office, by the Sub-Secretary, Mr. John Cusner, to whom Post-office Orders and all communications are to be addressed. Attendance daily from Ten till Four o'clock.

Office, 38, Poultry.

THE GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Established 1837. Empowered by special Act of Parliament, 62, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON. Capital, One Million.

DIRECTORS.	
George Bousfield, Esq.	William Hunter, Esq., Ald.
Thomas Challis, Esq., Ald. M.P.	James Pilkington, Esq., M.P.
Jacob George Cope, Esq.	Thomas Piper, Esq.
John Dixon, Esq.	Thomas B. Simpson, Esq.
John T. Fletcher, Esq.	The Rt. Hon. C. F. Villiers, M.P.
Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P.	John Wilks, Esq.
	Edward Wilson, Esq.

The LADY-DAY Fire Renewal Receipts are now ready, and may be had on application at the head office of the Company, or of any of its Agents throughout the country.

IN THE LIFE DEPARTMENT FOUR-FIFTHS of the Profits divisible by the Company's Deed of Settlement allowed to Assurers, and the Company transacts all business relating to Life Assurances, Deferred Annuities, and Family Endowments, on the most liberal terms consistent with sound principles and public security. No charge for STAMPS is made on LIFE POLICIES issued by the Company.

LOANS granted on personal security, and the deposit of a Life Policy to be effected by the borrower.

To all Agents, Solicitors, Auctioneers, and Surveyors, liberal allowance made.

By Order of the Board,

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

HOUSEHOLDERS' AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Money received on Deposits at 5 per cent. interest, payable half-yearly in April and October.

RICHARD HODSON, Secretary.
15 and 16, Adam-street, Adelphi, London.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Chief Office—19, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON.—The Directors of this Company have much pleasure in informing their Clients and the Public, that they have opened Branch Offices at 8, Newhall-street, BIRMINGHAM; Albion Chambers, BRISTOL; 84, Lord-street, LIVERPOOL; 65, King-street, MANCHESTER; 1, Dean-street, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE; 7, Alter Wandrahm, HAMBURG; and 95, Queen-street, PORTSEA.

Intending assurers should send for a copy of the last year's report. JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.

Valid Shares Drawn—Week ending March 23:—
£6,658, 34,275, 3,102, 78,157, 70,106, 14,278, 53,500, 63,008, 73,608—7*, 45,164, 76,823, 61,880, 23,962, 31,766, 73,247, 60,082, 54,249, 41,643, 7,868, 12,381, 74,977, 65,190, 21,969, 45,076, 42,207, 74,395, 23,068, 77,588, 50,664, 54,758—7*, 46,490, 74,181, 32,264, 6,826, 64,849, 35,714, 24,967, 45,277, 14,396, 56,883, 73,882, 66,650, 20,405, 15,606, 62,161—0*, 77,121, 68,354, 28,587, 19,633—6*, 66,397—6*, 64,867, 69,050, 4,727, 61,662, 15,585, 19,375, 49,726, 36,030, 29,549, 68,218, 72,715, 76,717, 78,327—6* 49,615.

* Grouped.
The shares numbered, 64,081, 37,669, 20,322, 67,042, 49,880, 57,927, 19,714, 37,201, 58,736, 4,016, 10,631, 7,298, 5,715, 10,537, 27,109, 63,177, 49,827, 36,333, 50,541, 71,199, were also drawn; but as the subscriptions were in arrears, the holders lost the benefit of the drawing.

Copies of the Prospectus, Rules, and last Annual Report, may be obtained at the office, or by post, gratis.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.
14, Moorgate-street, March 25, 1854.

TEMPERANCE PERMANENT LAND and BUILDING SOCIETY. Offices:—Commercial Chambers (Belle Sauvage), Ludgate-hill, London.

PRESIDENT: Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., M.P.

TRUSTEES: George Cruikshank, Esq. | George Charles Campbell, Esq.
Frederick Grosjean, Esq.

Shares, £30 each; Entrance Fee, 1s.; Monthly Subscription, 4s.; Transfer Fee, 1s. per share.

Shares may be taken at any time without arrears. Interest allowed on complete shares.

Profits divided among Investing Members. No Postage, or Incidental Fees.

Borrowing Members charged simply five per cent. per annum, upon the amount owing each year.

Estates open to every holder of shares, whether completed or uncompleted.

Subscriptions are due the first Monday in every Month, between the hours of 6 and 8 o'clock, but may be paid at any time prior at the Office, between 10 and 4, where Prospectuses and Shares may be obtained.

H. J. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

THE ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL, £100,000, in 10,000 Shares of £10 each. With power to increase to One Million.

DIRECTORS: Sir Henry Winston Barron, Bart., Chairman. Col. Lothian S. Dickson, Deputy Chairman.

Adolphus Baker, Esq. | Sir Charles Sharp Kirkpatrick, Bart.
David Birrell, Esq. | Edward Miall, Esq., M.P.

T. Houghton Burrell, Esq. | Charles Stocken, Esq.
William Court, Esq. | W. Stoughton Vardy, Esq.

Captain J. Bishop Culpeper. | James Toleman, Esq.
Henry Francis Home, Esq.

The advantages offered by this Company will be seen on an investigation of its Rates of Premium and the terms of its Loan business. It offers to the assured the security of a large subscribed capital, combined with all the advantages of a Mutual Assurance Office, eighty per cent. of the profits being divided amongst the Policy-holders every five years. The following are other characteristic features of the Company.

THE RATES OF PREMIUM are based upon the latest and most approved corrected tables of mortality, and will, therefore, be found lower than those adopted by other and earlier institutions.

POLICIES ARE INDISPENSABLE. No CHARGE is made for POLICY STAMPS or MEDICAL FEES.

The Assured ARE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL in any country in Europe without extra charge.

ONE-THIRD of the Premiums on Policies of £500 and upwards is allowed to remain unpaid, and continue as a claim on the Policy.

POLICIES ARE NOT FORFEITED if the Premiums are not paid when due.

LOANS are granted to Policy-holders and others on approved Personal Security, and on every description of Freehold Leasehold, and Copyhold Property. The advances are made on liberal terms and a Policy of Insurance on the borrower's life to the amount only of the sum borrowed is required.

For the convenience of the WORKING CLASSES, Policies are issued as low as £20, at the same rates of Premium as larger Policies.

Premiums may be paid quarterly, half-yearly, or annually.

The following are the Rates of Premium on the classes of Policies generally taken out:—

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 439.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

SIMONY.

If our ancestors, in the exercise of that wisdom in which they are often supposed to have so greatly excelled their degenerate posterity, had erected a national establishment for the cure of bodily diseases—if in every parish of the kingdom they had set apart ample resources for the maintenance of a State-authorized physician, and had laid a tax on the inhabitants to furnish him with a dispensary, whether they chose to take his physic, or "throw it to the dogs"—if the appointment of the parish doctor had, in the majority of cases, fallen into private hands, and become a "chattel" to be sold, or mortgaged, settled or bequeathed, as convenience might dictate—and if, in these days of reform, it had been proposed to prohibit the sale of the next appointment, as a step towards some more natural and reasonable distribution of medical practice—what would have been the arguments by which the contemplated innovation would have been resisted? It would have been said that the cure of bodies is recognised legal property; that any attempt to depreciate the market value of it would be *pro tanto* confiscation; that private patronage in medical practice opens the door of the profession to the mercantile and monied classes; that the purchase of "a sphere of labour" is not to be condemned even by the squeamish, for, no man being allowed to practice under the sanction of the State without having submitted his qualifications to examination, the appointment of an unfit person is not to be presumed; and that, in point of fact, no mode presented itself of reconciling a national medical establishment with the habits of the people so efficacious as that to which time, prescription, and law, had given unquestionable sanction. If, we say, such a state of things had obtained, such a proposal had been made, and such an answer had been given, the practical common sense of this age would have been shocked, and the entire system would have been denounced as anomalous and absurd.

On the supposition, however, that the vast establishment of which we speak were one for the cure of spiritual instead of bodily diseases, and had reference to the eternal interests of men instead of their temporal interest only, one would be very apt to come to the conclusion, that any similar arrangements whereby the "cure of souls" should be treated as a marketable property, would be universally execrated as impious as well as absurd. It is difficult to form an *a priori* conception of the men who would be bold enough to stand up in the face of the religious sense of the country, and openly vindicate such property against all legislative intermeddling. That intelligent men, honest men, Christian men, can be found to do so, and do it without any visible consciousness of impropriety, is one of the saddest proofs recently brought under our notice, of the extent to which a religious establishment has operated to dim the perceptions, and destroy the spiritual sensibilities, of persons otherwise reasonable and religious. Custom alone could have so vitiated and confounded our natural

sense of right and wrong, as to have schooled us into listening to such an argument, without indignation and horror. And yet, in the House of Commons on Wednesday last, the right of property in the cure of souls was stoutly defended, was guarded from all assault with earnest declamation, and was fully confirmed by an overwhelming majority of votes.

"Misery," runs the old proverb, "makes us acquainted with strange bed-fellows"—and a State Establishment of religion familiarises us with some very shocking practices. That the Bishops of the Church should be appointed to their sacred office by the Prime Minister of the realm, who may be a Presbyterian, as now, and, therefore, a born foe to "Black Prelacy"—or that the chief pastorate of a parish should be regarded as a "chattel," and as much a man's own to keep or to sell by auction as his farm or his furniture, are, no doubt, indefensible arrangements—but then they are perhaps the best arrangements that can be contrived for the safe working of a richly-endowed and feudally-constituted Church Establishment such as ours. When men agree in violating a primary law of the spiritual kingdom, as all State Establishments of Christianity must, and do, that violation necessitates a dozen others to make it tolerable. Such a Church as ours would override all interests, endanger all institutions, and destroy all liberty, if it were not kept under strict control by the temporal power—and, perhaps, there is no method of managing this more effectually than by giving to the Crown the exclusive appointment of the Bishops. So, also, it is some check upon the arrogant tendency of endowed ecclesiastical bodies, that the patronage of the Church should be as widely diffused as possible—and where patronage falls into private hands, no legislation can wholly prevent its being dealt with as property. Thus it is that one scandal grows out of another, and he who commits one huge wrong, must do a great many more to bolster it up.

Our readers need hardly be told, that the foregoing observations have been suggested by the discussion, on Wednesday last, of Mr. Phillimore's bill for abating Simony. His measure, the second reading of which he then proposed, was a very bold one, if regard be had to the principle it embodied, but very narrow as respects its application of it. By a law of Queen Anne's reign, clergymen who purchase a next presentation to a living are declared to be guilty of Simony. The hon. member for Tavistock would have extended this law to *laymen*, and would have made the sale of a next presentation, by any party, legally Simoniacal. The advowson, that is, the permanent right of presentation—the fee simple of Church patronage—he would have left just as it stands: to be bought, sold, bartered, bequeathed, administered by bankrupt assignees, or settled as a marriage portion, according to the will and convenience of the owner. His moral argument, which was irresistible, told as strongly against the sale of advowsons as against that of next presentations; and, like a timid surgeon, his operation was unsuccessful because executed by a trembling hand. The strong ground for him was the religious one; and how could he maintain that, and, at the same time, tacitly connive at a larger evil than that which he denounced? His opponents, therefore, took him in the rear. He tried to bear down law, but without appeasing conscience. His proposal was too much for legal acquiescence, too little for religious approbation. He assailed a well-fortified evil, but without bringing up to his assistance the only force adequate to overpower it, namely, the force of deep-seated religious conviction. Hence, he met with signal discomfiture; and, what is worse, a political defeat uncompensated for by moral glory.

It was, however, our chief purpose in this article to direct the attention of our readers to the character of the debate on this subject. One more calculated to damage the reputation of the Church Establishment, in the estimation of thoughtful and religious men, it is hard to imagine. On the one hand, Mr. Phillimore and Lord Goderich—the latter especially—brought

out in striking relief the antithesis which the sale of Church patronage presents to all our Christian feelings and principles; and, on the other, the pecuniary rights of patrons were proved to be sanctioned by law, and held to be inviolate. There needed not a single sentence from the Voluntaries to justify their position in reference to the State Church. Herself-exposure was a stronger condemnation of her claims than the most withering rebuke of her opponents. They had only to keep silence, as we are glad they did, and allow their ends to be served by an immodest unveiling of deformities by the friends of the Establishment principle. It has been suggested, indeed, that the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control, could hardly forward their object more effectually than by reprinting the whole of that debate without note or comment. It was whispered to us, as we listened to the discussion, that the spirit of the great magician must be hovering over the House of Commons, and watching with delight the grave vindication of the principles which he was the first to promulgate, and which are still associated with his name. The dry, unimpassioned manner in which a right of property in the souls of men was asserted, and even justified—the marvellous self-possession with which marriage settlements, and market values were pitted against religious instincts and Christian precepts—and the thorough business tone with which the spiritual interests of parishioners were treated as a nonentity when put in competition with £ s. d. considerations, were as instructive as they were painful. We were proud that day of our dissent from a Church against which such evils could be alleged, and in defence of the supposed interest of which, such worldly advocacy could be employed. There are, no doubt, many evils incident to the Voluntary principle, and will be, so long as human nature is infirm—but, at least, that system is not chargeable with permitting a traffic in holy things, or, if ever it should become so, we hope its friends will have grace enough to be ashamed of the accusation.

The vote was well nigh as instructive as the debate. The minority in favour of Mr. Phillimore's motion, amounting to less than one-third of the members who divided, was swelled by the votes of several Voluntaries, who meant thereby merely to express their sympathy with the moral purpose of the promoters, but who had no intention of signifying satisfaction with the scope of the measure. From these circumstances, we trust, Church reformers will learn a lesson. The Church Establishment is not a case in which small repairs, done on right principles, can be made to harmonise with the general structure. You cannot touch patronage, even to the trifling extent proposed by the hon. member for Tavistock, without shaking the very basis on which the existing system reposes. All men who care to retain a national Church will be found to range themselves eventually on the side of whatever has become essentially identified with it. And in this country, private patronage, and the treatment of it as property, may now be regarded as an essential feature of our State-Church system. The only feasible mode of doing away with the evils of the system seems to us to be the doing away with it as a whole; and offering ample compensation to the individuals who might suffer by the change. To this conclusion, we are convinced, Church reformers must come at last; but we are willing that they should be guided thither by their own experience.

OPENING OF THE UNIVERSITIES.

In the House of Lords, on Monday evening, the Lord Chancellor presented a noticeable petition from Sir Culling Eardley, on the subject of the exclusion of Dissenters from the University of Oxford. Sir Culling shows that though the University is a "national institution," it excludes from membership the majority of the worshipping people of England—a grievance which he describes as "a subject of just and increasing

indignation;” asserting, “that the total of the large-minded worshippers within and without the Established Church, who hold the same faith, and are prepared for much mutual co-operation, constitute a considerable majority of the worshipping people of England and Wales.” Sir Culling considers “that it would therefore be feasible for persons holding the common faith of the religious people of England to found, at their own expense, a common college connected with the University of Oxford, which should give to its members certificates of religious examination; and that it would be expedient to allow this to be done, and to permit such certified persons to take degrees in arts, mathematics, law, and history, on passing the usual University examination on those subjects, without being required to pass a University examination in religion.”

The Lord Chancellor said that, without going the length of the petitioner, it was well worthy the consideration of Parliament whether, if the Dissenters could not share in the endowments of the University of Oxford, means might not be found whereby Dissenters might have the benefit of the education given at that University.

We are exceedingly glad to learn, that the applications received by the Society for the Liberation of Religion, for information and practical suggestions, justify the belief that petitioning in respect to this matter will be on a larger scale than was at the outset hoped for. The subjoined forms of petition have been prepared for the guidance of those who desire to give their support to the movement. We say guidance, because it is desirable that the petitions signed in different places should not be uniform in phraseology:—

No. 1.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.
The humble petition of the (undersigned inhabitants of in the County of ; or of the undersigned Members of the Congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembling at ; or, as the case may be.)

Showeth,—That your petitioners learn with satisfaction that your Honourable House has under its consideration a measure for adapting the constitution of the University of Oxford to the present wants of the people.

That in the opinion of your petitioners such measure will be incomplete, and will leave unredressed a great grievance, if it do not make provision for the admission to the University, and to the full enjoyment of all its advantages, of other than members of the Church of England.

That your petitioners claim the removal of the restriction on the ground that, while the Universities are national institutions, the majority of the nation—as shown by the Census of 1851—are not members of the religious body which has a monopoly of their advantages; and that thereby an important religious disability is created, and the cause of learning is itself injured.

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honourable House that provision may be made, both in the measure now before Parliament, and in others affecting the Universities, for the admission of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

No. 2.

That your petitioners regard it as a violation of the principles of religious liberty that the majority of the people of this country should be excluded from participating in the full enjoyment of the valuable educational advantages afforded by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, because they are not members of the Church of England.

That these institutions, being national in their character, and being so treated by the Legislature, ought, in the opinion of your petitioners, to be freely open to the people generally without reference to their particular religious opinions.

That as Parliament is about to pass measures for reforming the constitution of such Universities, your petitioners submit that provision should be made for the removal of this long existing grievance.

And your petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honourable House, that clauses may be inserted in any bills relating to the Universities which may have the effect of removing all religious tests.

And your petitioners, &c.

No. 3.

That your petitioners have observed with pleasure the disposition of the Legislature to render the National Universities of greater public utility.

That among the alterations required in their constitution, one of the most important is, in the judgment of your petitioners, the admission of all classes, irrespective of religious differences, to a full participation in the advantages which they afford.

That the exclusion from them of all but members of the Church of England is not only a great practical injustice towards other religious bodies, but operates unfavourably in respect to the advancement of education and learning.

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honourable House that in any measure affecting the constitution of the Universities which may come under the consideration of Parliament, provision may be made for the removal of the restriction herein complained of.

And your petitioners, &c.

General Directions.—By the standing orders of the House of Commons, petitions must be in writing; each petitioner must sign his own name only: at least one signature must be on the sheet containing the petition. Petitions sent by post to a member of Parliament (but not to any other person) are free of postage, if enclosed in a paper which is left open at both ends, and marked “Petition.”

It is suggested that the signatures to petitions, &c., should by no means be confined to Dissenters, many Churchmen being favourable to the object sought.

Petitions will have more weight if signed by males only, and if the subscribers give their addresses.

THE SCOTCH EDUCATION BILL.

A meeting of the Commission of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, called by the Moderator, was held in Edinburgh on Wednesday, to consider the Education Bill of the Lord Advocate, A

string of ten resolutions was proposed by Dr. Muir, expressing surprise and regret at the attempt made by the bill to destroy the machinery of the parochial system, and taking objections to the bill *in limine*. These were met by seven resolutions proposed by Dr. Hill, equally condemnatory of the bill as a whole, but expressing approval of some portions, such as the increase of salary to the schoolmasters. On a division, Dr. Muir's resolutions were carried, by forty-seven votes to thirty-seven.

The Executive Committee of the Scottish Anti-state-church Association have adopted a series of resolutions respecting the bill, objecting to several of its provisions, especially that providing that religious instruction shall be communicated by the ordinary masters of schools, which “will practically operate as a test, limiting the selection of masters almost exclusively to persons in communion with the Church of Scotland and the Free Church, to the exclusion of all holding Voluntary principles—about one-third of the people of Scotland; to the clause which provides that parish ministers shall be members of the School Committees, thus perpetuating a distinction in favour of the religious teachers of a minority of the population; and to the clauses that provide for the support of denominational schools, thus providing, at the expense of the community, for the propagation of truth and falsehood on the most important of all human concerns.”

A petition to Parliament, in accordance with these objections, had been adopted.

The Roman Catholics are taking measures to send out a number of priests to give spiritual aid to the Roman Catholic soldiers who have proceeded to the East.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—Dr. Halley, the appointed chairman of the Congregational Union of England and Wales for the present year, being about to visit Greece, the Rev. Dr. Brown, of Cheltenham, has consented, at the request of the committee, to supply his place.

DOCTRINAL DIFFERENCES AMONGST BISHOPS.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has just ordained a gentleman who was rejected a year ago by the Bishop of Ripon, on the ground of unsoundness on the doctrine of baptism, and has licensed him to the curacy of Nettlestead, near Maidstone. The gentleman alluded to is the Rev. George Anstice Hayward, M.A., whose case, it will be remembered, excited much interest at the time. The rev. gentleman's views were alleged by the Bishop of Ripon to be in opposition to the Prayer Book.

MINISTERS' MONEY.—A meeting was held in the Chamber of Commerce, Cork, on Wednesday evening, to take into consideration the bill of Sir John Young, and to make preparations for a general meeting of the citizens, about to be called on a requisition to the Mayor, for the total abolition of this truly obnoxious impost. Resolutions were adopted to the effect that the bill of Sir John Young was “delusive and unsatisfactory,” and that if it cannot be amended so as to make it one of total abolition, “we call on our representatives to reject altogether a measure so miserably conceived, so unworthy of a British senate, and so unsatisfactory to the Irish people.”

THE PUBLIC RIGHT TO THE UNIVERSITIES.—Under this title, a sixpenny pamphlet has been issued by the Society for the Liberation of Religion, furnishing much information which will be acceptable to the public in the prospect of the approaching discussions in the House of Commons. It deals with the subject historically and argumentatively, supplies particulars relative to the constitution and revenues of the universities and colleges, and sketches measures of reform for making these world-famous institutions valuable to those to whom they really belong, viz., the people at large.

THE DIVISION ON MINISTERS' MONEY.—We are sorry that, in our last number, mention was made of the name of Mr. Lawrence Heyworth, the staunch and consistent member for Derby, which appeared in the majority favourable to the Ministerial bill on Ministers' Money, without some explanation. We understand that Mr. Heyworth found himself, much to his annoyance, amongst the “Ayes.” When the division took place, he was writing in the right-hand lobby, not at all expecting that event. The doors were shut, and he was compelled, contrary to his intention, and by the rules of the House, to give his name amongst the “Ayes.”

CHURCH-RATES.—LYDNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—At a vestry-meeting of this parish, on Friday last, the vicar declared the result of the poll, and stated that a church-rate of 5d. in the pound was carried by a majority of 32 votes. Many votes had been obtained by an assurance that a much smaller rate would be accepted; and when Mr. Nicholson, on behalf of the opponents of the rate, announced their determination to refuse payment, and dispute the validity of the rate, the pro rate party consented to accept a rate of 2½d. in the pound, to be applied exclusively to the repayment of money borrowed for the restoration of the Church, under the powers of the Church Building Act, and to raise the remainder of the estimate by a voluntary contribution. This is a first step towards the abolition of Church-rates in Lydney.

ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS.—A return, ordered by the House of Lords, contains an account of the revenues of all the fees of archbishops and bishops of the Established Church of Ireland, and of the houses and lands belonging to each see, with the net income enjoyed by each prelate. The gross revenues of the see of Armagh amount to £16,299 1s. 11d. a year, and the net income to £14,634 9s. 2d.; the gross revenues of the see of Dublin are £3,249 8s. 5d.; and the net £7,636 18s. 3d.; the see of Meath produces in gross £4,308 2s. 3d., and in net £3,764 1s. 1½d.; the see of Tuam realizes in gross £5,080 15s. 8d., and in net £3,898 7s. 7½d.; the see of Kilmore in gross

£6,955 2s. 5d., and in net £6,607 12s. 3d.; the see of Derry in gross £12,847 7s. 2d., and in net £8,061 3s. 8½d.; the see of Down and Connor in gross £4,988 4s., and in net £3,658 17s. 5½d.; the see of Ferns and Leighlin in gross £4,605 19s. 2½d., and in net £3,874 16s. 1½d.; the see of Killaloe and Kilfenora in gross £3,919 19s. 3d., and in net £3,310 15s. 6½d.; the see of Cashel and Ards in gross £5,334 3s. 8d., and in net £4,691 11s. 6½d.; the see of Cloyne in gross £2,688 13s. 7½d., and in net £2,310 11s. 7½d.; and the see of Limerick and Ardara in gross £4,536 3s. 1½d., and in net £3,997 17s. 1½d.

THE NEW BISHOP.—The appointment of Mr. Hamilton to the see of Salisbury has excited no small dissatisfaction, on account of his Tractarian leanings. The *Morning Advertiser* sets him down as “a Tractarian of the first water,” and declares that “a more unfit or more unpopular ecclesiastical appointment has not been made for many years.” The *Guardian* certifies to the orthodoxy (in the High Church sense) of the new bishop. According to the same authority, “he probably owes his appointment to the influence of Mr. Sidney Herbert.” The *Record*, though objecting to Mr. Hamilton's ecclesiastical views, hopes he will make an active and energetic bishop. The more secular *Examiner* is very energetic in its disapprobation. It highly censures Lord Aberdeen for passing over eminent divines to make way for an obscure Tractarian. “If ever there was a time, however, when an effort should be made to add vigour and ability to the episcopate, to counterpoise the unscrupulous activity of one or two of the body, and the careless supineness of all the rest, it is the present. The fate of the Establishment is really at stake, and by Mr. Hamilton's elevation another nail is driven into the coffin of the Anglican Church. In every respect it is a most unfortunate appointment.”

THE BISHOP OF LONDON'S NEW BILL ON BENEFICES.—On Wednesday the Bishop of London's bill to extend the provisions of the acts for the augmentation of benefices was printed by the House of Lords. The object of the bill, which contains seven clauses, is to extend and enlarge an act of the 29th Charles II., for confirming and perpetuating augmentations made by ecclesiastical persons to small vicarages and curacies, which was extended by the 1 and 2 Will. IV., which act was also extended by the 1 and 2 Vict. It is proposed to enact, that where the incumbent or any benefice shall, in right of the same, be entitled to any glebe land or other land, he may annex the same by deed to any church or chapel within the district or parish where it may be situate to the interest that the same may be held, and enjoyed by the incumbent for the time being of such church or chapel, and every such deed shall be effectual to all intents and purposes. The provisions of the 1 and 2 Will. IV. c. 45, sec. 13, are to extend to annexations under this act. The incumbent may annex the tithes or parts of the tithes, or grant annual sums of money to chapels of ease. Every annexation and grant which shall be made by the incumbent of any benefice, in pursuance of any power contained in the act, shall be made with the consent of the archbishop or bishop of the diocese, within which such benefice shall be situate; and also with the consent of the patron, such consent to be signified to the archbishop or bishop, and patron executing the instrument by which the annexation or grant shall be made. In rectories inappropriate the tithes, &c., may be released from rent charges, with the consent of the archbishop, &c. The provisions of the 1 and 2 Wm. IV. c. 45, sections 23 to 30, are to be extended to this act. In every case in which the consent of the patron is required, the person shall be deemed the patron who, if the said benefice, or church, or chapel, were then vacant, would be entitled to present or nominate, or to collate thereto.

OVER DARWEN AND ITS INCUMBENT.—At the annual meeting of the ratepayers of this township, on Saturday last, a circumstance occurred which somewhat “astonished the natives” of this our town. The meeting was held to elect Poor-law Guardians, Overseers, and a Board for the Management of the Highway, with other business of a similar nature, sufficiently interesting to cause a large muster of the ratepayers in the Assembly-room. At the time for commencing business, the Rev. E. C. Montcrio, incumbent of Trinity Church, walked into the room and took possession of the chair, and proceeded to direct the business of the evening without appearing to care for the opinion of the meeting, three-fourths of whom, we venture to affirm, are Dissenters. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read, Mr. R. S. Ashton, a wealthy manufacturer of the town, rose and forcibly pointed out the impropriety of the incumbent thrusting himself into a position like the one he had assumed, against the wishes of his fellow-townsmen. The assistant overseer, Mr. Seth Harwood, said that the law allowed him to do so, and there the matter dropped for the time. At the conclusion of the proceedings, a gentleman rose to propose a vote of thanks to the chairman, upon which Mr. Ashton again rose and said, that he did not consider it to be the duty of the meeting to give a vote of thanks to a chairman who had assumed the office against the wishes of the meeting. This speech was received with loud cheers; and, as neither the motion nor the amendment were pressed, a few hands were held up out of the many hundreds of persons present, a result which will, no doubt, damp the rev. gentleman's enterprise on any future occasion. When the chairman rose to respond, he said that he had a legal right to the position which he held that evening; and, if the ratepayers did not like it, they must get the law amended through their representatives in Parliament. It may, perhaps, be as well to state that, many years ago, it was the regular custom for the incumbent of Trinity Church (not the present one) or the resident curate of St. James's Church, to preside at town meetings, till on one occasion both gentlemen happened to be present at a meet-

ing of the ratepayers held in the Union Workhouse, when both claimed the chair—one, on the ground of seniority; and the other, the incumbent, as the legal occupant—and, as neither gentleman would give way, the ratepayers had the mortification to behold their spiritual teachers engaged in a bitter altercation respecting a trivial temporal office; and, in disgust, the whole meeting rose and left the room.—*From a Correspondent.*

Religious Intelligence.

THE REV. JOSEPH PERKINS, late of Needham Market, Suffolk, has accepted an unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Independent Church, Duxford, Cambridgeshire.

GROVE-STREET CHAPEL, BOSTON.—The Rev. H. F. Holmes, in consequence of ill-health, has resigned his pastoral charge in the above place of worship. Mr. Holmes is about to exercise his ministry at Wimborne, in Dorsetshire.

THE REV. DR. ALEXANDER, of Edinburgh, has received and declined an invitation to the ministerial charge of the church and congregation assembling at West George-street, Glasgow, vacant by the death of Dr. Wardlaw.

MANCHESTER.—The Rev. John Rawlinson, of Cheltenham, has accepted the cordial and unanimous invitation of the seat-holders and friends worshipping in the new Independent Chapel, Knot Mill, Manchester, and purposes commencing his labours the last Sabbath in March.

HALESWORTH.—The Rev. D. T. Carson, late Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Lancashire Congregational Union, having resigned his office, has received and accepted a call from the Congregational Church at Halesworth, Suffolk, to become their pastor, and entered upon his stated pastoral duties on the 12th instant.

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS SERVICES, "designed for the accommodation of all classes," were commenced at the Temperance Hall, last Sunday afternoon, when the body of the large hall and its orchestra were crowded to excess, the galleries not being open, though we understand they will be in future. Rev. T. Mays, of Wigston, preached, and Rev. T. Lomas and Mr. T. Nunneley, took part in the conduct of the service. A great proportion of the congregation consisted of regular attendants at Dissenting chapels, amongst whom, we believe, considerable interest is felt as to the success of these services.—*Leicester Mercury.*

CONGREGATIONAL PASTORS' INSURANCE AID SOCIETY.—It will be seen, from our advertising columns, that a society, under the above designation, has been established for the purpose of assisting ministers in effecting insurance on behalf of their widows and children. It is supported by gentlemen of known weight and influence of the Independent denomination, and deserves the support of liberal-minded men. It proposes, in five years, to raise a capital of £5,000, towards which various gentlemen have promised contributions, varying from ten to one guinea. Mr. John Remington Mills has, with great liberality, given a donation of £250; with the promise of a second donation of the same amount twelve months hence, provided that, in the interim, promises of donations and subscriptions can be obtained, insuring to the society the complete possession of the proposed funded capital within the time specified.

EBENESER CHAPEL, WEST BROMWICH.—On Thursday last, March 16, the Rev. W. Outhbertson, B.A., of Spring-hill College, Birmingham, and of the London University, was publicly ordained pastor of the church and congregation assembling in the above chapel. The morning service commenced at eleven o'clock, when the Rev. Alfred Vaughan, B.A., of Birmingham, read the Scriptures, and prayed; the Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., of London (a former pastor of the church), delivered an introductory discourse on the origin and nature of a Christian Church; Professor Watts, of Spring-hill College, Birmingham (one of the pastor's tutors), asked the usual questions, which were replied to by Mr. Outhbertson in appropriate terms. The Rev. W. H. Dyer, of Bath (the recent pastor of the church), offered the ordination prayer; Professor Barker, of Spring-hill College, afterwards delivered an affectionate charge to the young minister; the Rev. B. W. Dale concluded with prayer. In the afternoon, at three o'clock, a cold collation was provided in the spacious upper school-room adjoining the chapel, at which upwards of 150 of the ministers and friends sat down. Tea was provided at half-past five o'clock, and nearly 250 persons were present. In the evening the Rev. J. A. James preached to the people.

BURY, LANCASHIRE.—The friends connected with the Congregational Chapel and schools, Castle Croft, finding the accommodation inadequate, have lately endeavoured to extend their means of usefulness. An effort was made, first in the church and congregation, then among a few friends in the town and neighbourhood, and £300 were promised, the work was commenced, and at an expense of rather more than £400 they have obtained a room, which will accommodate about 150 children, a select class-room, a minister's vestry, a lecture-room capable of holding about 100 persons, and for two senior classes, also a singers' gallery, with accommodation for about 150 children in the chapel, and several additional pews. The school-rooms now will contain about 800 children, and their chapel about 750 persons. On Wednesday, the 15th of March, the Rev. Thomas Raffles, D.D., LL.D., of Liverpool, preached in the evening. On Lord's-day, the 12th, the Rev. A. Reed, D.D., of London, preached in the morning and evening, and the Rev. J. G. Rogers, B.A., of Ashton-under-Lyne, in the afternoon; the Revs. W. B. Thorburn, M.A., J. Anyon, J. Mather

(Wesleyan Association), J. Dickinson, J. Bruce, together with the pastor, W. Roseman, conducting the various devotional services. The congregations were numerous. Their collections amounted to £73 7s. 11½d., leaving yet to be raised about £50 to clear off the expense of this effort.

PRESTON.—The Rev. E. Jukes, having accepted a cordial and unanimous call from the congregation of Orange-street Chapel, London, to become their pastor, preached his farewell sermon in James-street Chapel, on Sunday evening week, to a crowded audience. Before the time of service every part of the chapel, including the aisles, was completely filled. On the following evening there was a crowded tea-meeting, at which many influential persons, and most of the ministers of the town and neighbourhood. Among them were the Revs. Alexander Fraser, F. Skinner, R. Cameron, D. Williams, H. H. Scullard, J. B. Johnson, and R. P. Clarke. Mr. Beatty, as senior deacon, in the name of the teachers and scholars of James-street school, presented Mr. Jukes with several handsomely bound books; and, in the name of the congregation, a splendid purse, containing one hundred sovereigns, as a testimonial of their high esteem for him, and their best wishes for his welfare. Mr. Pickles also presented him, in the name of the teachers and scholars of the Four-lane-ends school, with an elegant gold pencil-case. The rev. gentleman suitably acknowledged the tokens of the parting kindness of an attached and united people, among whom he had laboured for more than eleven years. All the ministers present expressed their respect for Mr. Jukes, their sorrow at parting with him, and their earnest desire for his future welfare and success.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Early closing of Shops, in favour of, 1.
Fire Insurance Duty, for reduction of, 2.
Medical Practitioners' Bill, against, 6.
Oaths' Bill, against, 27.
Paper Duty, for repeal of, 2.
Parliamentary Representation Bill, in favour of, 3.
Public Houses, for closing on Sundays, 136.
Settlement and Removal Bill, in favour of, 8.
—against, 27.
Romish Chaplains in Gaols, against endowment of, 7.
Ministers' Money (Ireland) Bill, against, 3.
Partnership Law, for amendment of, 1.
Bribery Prevention Bill, in favour of, 1.
Conventional Committee, against, 2.
Decimal Coinage, in favour of, 1.
Education (Scotland), for extension of, 3.
Jews, against their admission to Parliament, 1.
Reformatory Institutions, in favour of, 2.
Maynooth Grant, for withdrawal, 2.
Medical Officers (Navy), for improvement of, 2.
Religious Opinions, against persecution, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Mortmain Bill.
Registration of Bills of Sale Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

High Treason (Ireland) Bill.
Income Tax Bill.
Bribery, &c. Bill.
Controverted Elections, &c. Bill.
Valuation of Lands (Scotland) Bill.
Bribery Prevention Bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Income Tax Bill.
Ministers' Money &c. (Ireland) Bill.
High Treason (Ireland) Bill.
Church Building Acts Continuance Bill.

DEBATES.

THE LAW OF SIMONY.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, Mr. B. PHILLIMORE, in moving the second reading of the Simony Law Amendment Bill, the object of which was to prevent the sale of next presentations to livings, explained the state of the law, which was allowed, he said, to be most objectionable, leading indirectly, if not directly, to perjury. A canon was passed in the time of James I., appended to which was the present oath against simony, which every person was obliged to take before entering upon a benefice. This oath was worthy the attention of the House, for one of his objections to the present law was, that it led almost directly, in some cases, to perjury, and in many other cases to gross hypocrisy. But this oath, stringent as it was, had been found insufficient for its purpose. The act 12th Anne furnished a precedent for his proposed bill; but the interpretation put upon that statute by the courts of law had narrowed its scope. By the existing law, laymen, but not clergymen, might purchase next presentations; neither laymen nor clergymen could purchase void livings, although both might purchase advowsons. This anomalous state of the law had given rise to evasions; it had been found that next presentations were purchased when the incumbent had only five minutes to live. In the case of "Fox v. the Bishop of Chester" the House of Lords had suggested that the next avoidance of a living should not be the subject of sale; and this was the sole object of the bill. In reply to the objection that the bill would invade the rights of property, he observed that the right of presentation to a living was in its essence a spiritual trust, and should be administered so as not to produce the scandal proclaimed in the public newspapers, where the cure of souls was set up to auction. The argument of compensation had been well met by Sir J. Mackintosh, who had drawn a distinction between a property and a trust, and who showed that property had never been so much endangered as when a trust was confounded with it. He wished to know upon what ground laymen, who had by the constitution a spiritual trust given to them, were to claim that compensation which was not only not awarded to clergymen, but, on the contrary, had been taken away from them. Up to a very recent period, a rule binding in law prevailed, by which, when any bishop was either created or

translated from his see, the archbishop had the power of compelling him to execute a conveyance whereby the next presentation to the best benefice in his see passed to the archbishop. So little was the present archbishop aware of that act, that when the Bishop of Oxford was created he sent the conveyance to be executed as usual, when he was met by the law he (Mr. Phillimore) had mentioned to the House, which law was submitted to the officers of the Crown, and pronounced to be good. (Hear, hear.) He thought no member could see the cure of souls offered up by auction, in the same manner and almost in the same language as that in which estates or cattle, horses, or anything else were offered for sale, without feeling the deepest regret. What could the parishioners of such parishes think of the person who was to have the cure of their immortal souls, when they found that he had been induced to come there by the convenience of a good family residence, by a four-stalled stable, or by any other inducements of an entirely secular character; for they might look in vain for any mention of the slightest kind of the importance of the charge which he was to undertake. Everything was remembered and used as an inducement in those hawking advertisements for the sale of cures of souls except the great end for which the institution itself was established.

Mr. G. BURR said, the law attached this obligation to the exercise of the right of presentation, that the presentee should be a fit and proper person, and hedged the performance of this sacred trust by a condition to which Mr. Phillimore had not alluded, namely, the power of refusing institution possessed by the bishop. The bill did not deal with advowsons, although they were equally repugnant to the principle, which aimed, he believed, at the destruction of lay patronage altogether. He moved to defer the second reading for six months.

Sir W. HEATHCOTE observed, that it was unusual for the opponents of the bill to rest their opposition upon the ground of property, which would endanger advowsons and all lay patronage. When public trusts attached to rights vested in individuals, the right to exercise and its actual exercise were distinct things. The purchase of advowsons might be treated as legitimate; but the filling up a vacancy for money was not allowed, and, in respect to next presentations, it was not apparent why clergymen and laymen were not placed in the same position. He thought Parliament bound, as the guardian of the working of our institutions, to see that the owners of this species of property fulfilled their trust, would do well to pass this bill.

Sir G. GRAY was of opinion that no sufficient grounds had been stated for the second reading of this bill. He agreed that a sacred trust was connected with this property; but, at the same time, some of the scandals referred to, such as the presentation of aged and incapable clerks, might be checked by a proper exercise of authority by the Bishops; and although the question must not be looked at as altogether one of property, the law had recognized the right, and it should not be interfered with, but for some unequivocal public benefit. If the sale of an advowson was not hereafter to carry with it the right of next presentation, the value of advowsons would be seriously depreciated. The bill would not put a stop to the sale of next presentations, but only render the transaction more difficult.

Lord GODERICH said, the law of simony was admitted to be in a most unsatisfactory state, and the only remedies suggested were that provided by this bill, and a scheme which proposed to remove all restrictions upon the sale of presentations. In such sales no regard was had to the fitness of the presentee, and the rights of the parishioners—an important element in the question—were left out of consideration. Now, he (Lord Goderich) would ask the House to consider what it was that Mr. Butt described as a chattel interest? It was the right to appoint to a parish a minister of the Church of England, who in that capacity was to take upon himself the important and sacred trust of the spiritual interests of the parishioners. (Hear, hear.) He (Lord Goderich) wondered whether the hon. and learned gentleman would be consistent in his theory, and would advocate the application to his own profession of the principles which he advocated with regard to the Church of England. It was perfectly well-known, that in the sale of ecclesiastical presentations no regard whatever was had to the fitness of the purchaser to exercise the trust he bought. (Hear, hear.) The patron of a living wanted money; he wrote to his solicitor in London directing him to sell the next presentation; and there were brokers in this city whose chief business it was to conduct such sales. The solicitor and the broker met and discussed the age of the incumbent; they counted up his infirmities; they considered his diseases; and they described the pleasant situation of the parsonage-house, and the little there was to do. Indeed, they considered everything except the sacred trust which was involved. (Hear, hear.) It seemed to him (Lord Goderich) that the rights of the parishioners were deeply concerned in these transactions, and that their spiritual interests were in fact the subject of the sale. (Hear, hear.) In cases where the purchaser of an advowson resided in the parish or its immediate neighbourhood, if he presented to the living an unfit person, the parishioners could bring to bear upon him the direct influence of public opinion; but if the purchaser were a stranger, living at a distance, the parishioners must be content with such an incumbent as the patron chose to send, provided he did not appoint a man grossly immoral, palpably incapable, or grossly ignorant. The hon. and learned member for Weymouth had spoken of the control that could be exercised by the bishop in such cases; but the bishop could only refuse to institute for causes which would empower him to deprive. The purchaser of the presentation or advowson might know nothing of the wants or requirements of the parish to which he could present a clerk; and this part of the

question seemed to him (Lord Goderich) deserving of serious consideration, because the parishioners had no means of preventing the appointment of an unfit person. Of the two remedies he preferred that contained in the bill, which did not carry interference with the rights of property beyond that control which the law always reserved where a trust was annexed, and it would remove a scandal and an evil existing in the Church of England, and in that Church alone.

Mr. NAPIER, after the most anxious consideration, had determined to support the amendment, not being satisfied that the remedy proposed in the bill would give additional security that the exercise of the trust should be in accordance with its real object. The argument of Lord Goderich would, he said, go to the removal of lay patronages altogether. Moral evils must be dealt with by moral remedies. If the bill passed, corrupt bargains would still be made in secret. The interests of parishioners were most effectually guarded by care in the education of the clergy, and by a vigilant exercise of episcopal authority.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL fully appreciated the motives which had suggested this bill, but felt bound to give his cordial support to the amendment. He acknowledged that the law was in an anomalous condition, but, before this alteration was adopted, some great and glaring evil ought to be shown. The scandals referred to were equally connected with advowsons, and would not in the least degree be removed by the bill, which, not touching advowsons, would tend to restrain the right of patronage to the landed aristocracy. The sale of the next presentation but one would not be prevented, and it would be easy to evade the law by interposing some venerable presbyter; and the bill, without remedying the scandal or anomalies connected with the existing law, would introduce a mischievous principle.

Mr. HILDYARD opposed the bill, believing, he said, that so long as the patronage remained as it was, the Church never could acquire an exclusive character, which would occasion its downfall.

The second reading was negatived by 138 to 52; so the bill is lost.

PAYMENT OF WAGES (HOSIERY) BILL.

Sir HENRY HALFORD, on Thursday, moved the second reading of this bill; explaining that it was intended to prevent the stoppage of the rent of frames, used by the framework-knitters, from their wages. The frames used belong to all kinds of persons, who let them out to middlemen, who again let them to the operatives, at exorbitant and capricious rents. It is a very old grievance. Sir WILLIAM CLAY opposed the bill as an interference between master and workman, and as being a retrograde policy. The machinery of the bill he considered as bad as its principle, and he moved to defer the second reading for six months.

A discussion arose as to the policy of interfering between masters and men. Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY, Mr. PACKE, Mr. T. DUNCOMBE, and Mr. COBBETT, supported, while Mr. WILKINSON, Sir GEORGE STRICKLAND, Mr. LABOUCHERE, and Mr. BOUVIER, opposed the bill. Appealed to by Mr. DUNCOMBE, Mr. FITZROY said that Lord Palmerston would consent that the bill should be read a second time and referred to a select committee; not that he thought any benefit could arise from legislation of the kind proposed by the bill, but partly in deference to the large number of gentlemen (125) who advocated the introduction of the measure, and partly to disabuse the minds of the workpeople with reference to the effect of any legislation in these matters.

On a division, the second reading was carried by 120 to 73.

GAMING HOUSES.

On Thursday the ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in a bill to remedy the defects in the law relating to gaming-houses. The law contained, he observed, salutary provisions, and had succeeded in putting down the practice in public gaming-houses, but had hitherto proved inadequate to prevent it in private houses. Every day brought to light instances of young men of fortune who had been seduced into these houses, where they were ruined. Penalties were imposed, and the police were empowered to enter houses; but the law was defeated, because the owners of these private establishments were enabled, by fortifying the doors, to keep out the police until all gaming implements were put out of the way (there being a ready communication with the common sewer), the time required to force an entrance being not less than half an hour. The parties found in the house, when taken before a magistrate, were necessarily discharged, and the owners were enabled to re-open their house the same night and to resume their practices. The impotence of the law arose from the difficulty of obtaining evidence, which would be removed if the system of barring out the police were put an end to. He proposed, therefore, to make this act a substantive offence; to extend the provision contained in the 8th and 9th of Victoria, chap. 109, section 8; to authorize magistrates to select from parties brought before them, some for prosecution, and others for witnesses; and to make the giving a false name and address an offence. It might be said that the bill he proposed would not be effectual in repressing gaming-houses, but he would remind the House that the same opinion had been expressed with regard to the measure he had formerly introduced on the subject of betting-offices. (Hear, hear.) That measure was passed, and he believed those pests of society—betting-offices—were now destroyed. (Hear, hear.) He had no doubt, if the House assented to this bill, that it would have an equally efficacious and salutary effect, by putting down the remnant of those gaming establishments which at one time disgraced this country. (Cheers.)

Sir J. SHILLY, said, as he represented that part of London (loud laughter) which was cursed by the

establishments to which this bill referred, he wished to tender his best thanks to the hon. and learned Attorney-General for having introduced such a measure. (Hear, hear.)

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (NO. 2) BILL.

Mr. BRADY, in moving the second reading of this bill, said we had got in the United Kingdom several medical corporate bodies, and yet there was no means by which a man professing to belong to either of these bodies could be recognized or known. Society, he conceived, was very much injured by that state of things, and the present bill was to remedy the evil. It provided a system of registration of medical practitioners—a system in perfect conformity with the constitution of this country, where the members of the legal profession, officers of the army and navy, and clergymen, were all registered and known. The state of the medical profession upon this point was perfectly anomalous; there was an entire want of proper system of registration; and, as the measure he now proposed was efficacious, simple, designed for the protection both of the public and of the profession, by whom it was essentially required, he trusted the House would agree to the second reading. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HADFIELD should be glad to know what was the intention of the Government with respect to this bill.

Mr. FITZROY believed that the Secretary of State for the Home Department had stated that he had no objection whatever to the introduction of this bill, and to its being read a second time. (Hear.) He should not therefore oppose the motion before the House.

Colonel DUNNE believed the object of the bill to be a useful one, though there were some points in it upon which in committee he should have to propose an amendment or two.

The bill was then read a second time.

SETTLEMENT AND REMOVAL BILL.

In Commons, on Friday, in reply to an inquiry by Mr. HENLEY, with reference to the Settlement and Removal Bill, Lord J. RUSSELL said the Government were of opinion that, if the law was altered with regard to English paupers, the power of removal of Irish paupers from England and Scotland could not be maintained in its present state; and stated that it was proposed to introduce a distinct bill upon the subject. Mr. DISRAELI asked that the bill, which stood for second reading that evening, should be postponed until the promised bill was before the House; but Lord J. RUSSELL declined.

Mr. BAINES then moved the second reading of the Settlement and Removal Bill.

Mr. STAFFORD moved, by way of amendment, to defer the second reading for six months, prefacing his motion by a protest against the announcement made by the noble lord, at the eleventh hour, of so vital an alteration of the measure, changing, as he considered, its whole character. He then proceeded to argue against the abolition of settlement, and of the power of removal proposed by the bill, which, whatever might be the difficulties and abuses under the present law, he was satisfied would be unwelcome to the poor, and endeavoured to show that the substitution of union rating for parochial rating would operate injuriously to occupiers and owners. After pointing out what he represented as defects in the bill, especially the absence of a schedule of the actual boundaries of the unions, he denounced the measure as a step towards the concentration of absolute power in the Poor Law Board, the abolition of local superintendence, a conflict between open and close parishes, and, finally, a national rate.

The amendment was seconded by Lord D. STUART, who considered that the abolition of settlement and of the power of removal would operate oppressively to poor, and that the alteration of the area of chargeability would, in some parishes, end in a confiscation of property.

Mr. K. SEYMOUR believed that those out of doors who were best able to appreciate this measure were, like himself, favourable to its principal, and that the time had arrived when the British labourer must be set free. He adverted to various evils which arose out of the present state of the law, and to certain misapprehensions respecting the parochial system, close parishes, and the tendency of the measure to a national rating. He would be glad, he said, if the period for making the change equal were extended over fifteen or twenty years.

Mr. DRUMMOND confessed that his difficulty with respect to this bill was, that it was only a fragment of a great measure—one of several measures, all of which were necessary in order to produce the end proposed. The way in which he looked at this bill was, how it would affect the poor. Would they be better off or not? The poor-laws were the *Magna Charta* of the poor; and if, upon examination of this and the other bills, he found that the labourer would be benefited, the measure should have his support; but if it was a question of saving the ratepayers, he should vote against it.

Mr. RICE, Mr. POLLARD-URQUHART, and Mr. VERNON SMITH, supported, and Mr. CHRISTOPHER, Mr. BUCK, Sir GEORGE PEACHELL, and Mr. KENDALL, opposed the bill.

Mr. KNIGHT said, he had been of opinion that the law of settlement was injurious to the poor, but further consideration had convinced him it was the title-deed of the poor to parochial relief. The real bearing of the measure was not understood by those who believed it would benefit the poor; whereas, it was a struggle of property to throw off the burden of the poor. He read copious extracts from evidence upon the subject of the settlement law, and upon that of rating to the poor, contending that there was no instance of a district chargeability having been successful, or unless the poor were taken care of in neighbourhoods, although there

had been repeated instances of its failure. A settlement law would have spared Ireland the clearances which had created so much misery. Many of the objects aimed at in this bill were accomplishing themselves, removals were gradually diminishing, and the equalization of the poor-rate was going on to an enormous extent. If this bill passed, and the parochial system were broken up, a system of administration analogous to that of France would be introduced into this country, and within ten years a general rate would be extended over it; with all the evils and none of the advantages of a national rate.

Sir G. GREY, assuming the second reading of this bill to be the only question, was prepared to give his cordial assent to it. He believed that the bill was founded on the only sound principle by which an amendment of the law of settlement could be made. It embraced two objects—the abolition of compulsory removal, and the extension of the area of chargeability from parishes to unions. The former, he believed, would conduce to the benefit of the population; the latter stood upon a different footing; it was an object in which the poor were not so much concerned as the ratepayers. There were numerous close parishes in the country, and he thought it would be best to enlarge the area of rating so as to reach the union limit, which he believed would not impair local self-government. He regretted, however, that the question of Scotch and Irish paupers had been imported into the discussion. If a measure of this nature was to be engrafted upon this bill, or made a corollary of it, he should be bound to refuse his assent to it, from his experience of the evils attending the landing of enormous numbers of Irish paupers on the shores of this country. He was convinced that such a course would raise an opposition to the measure throughout the country.

Mr. PACKE moved the adjournment of the debate, as the House had no sufficient information as to the supplementary measure.

Sir J. GRAHAM thought that the adjournment of the debate should be only until Monday, when Lord Palmerston would be in his place to explain what had passed between him and the Irish members, represented by Lord C. Hamilton.

Mr. DISRAELI remarked, that there was one point to which Sir James had not adverted. The bill was introduced on the 10th of February, and the second reading was delayed in order that the country should have time to form an opinion of its merits, and boards of guardians had expressed their opinion upon a paper to which the Government had been pledged, but which was now to be completely changed.

Mr. PACKE moved that the day to which the debate should be adjourned be the 24th of April, but upon a division "Monday" was carried by 132 to 121.

On Monday night, prior to the resumption of the debate, Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Mr. WALPOLE, said the Government were not prepared at that moment to state the details of the measure regarding Irish and Scotch paupers in England, and that, in his opinion, this formed no ground for postponing the second reading of the Settlement and Removal Bill.

On the order for resuming the debate being read, Mr. PACKE moved that it be again adjourned. A division was called for without remark from the Ministerial benches, but Mr. WALPOLE interposed. He said, that if the English poor were to be allowed to make the best use of their labour, wherever they could, the same power ought to be extended to the Irish and Scotch poor, who should be entitled, in common with the English, to the benefit of the second principle. The House ought, therefore, to be in possession of full information upon the whole measure, and to know what were to be the details of the regulations respecting the Irish poor. The principle of this measure lay very much in its details, and he objected to imperfect and incomplete legislation.

Mr. BAINES did not consider the substitution of destitution for settlement, as a ground of relief, to be a principle of the bill; at the present moment destitution gave a title to relief. He thought no reason whatever had been assigned for postponing the bill, and it was desirable that the decision of the House upon the second reading should be given as early as possible. Sufficient materials had been obtained for the decision of the English question; and, as to the other question, there were no materials. He must meet the motion for adjournment of the debate with a direct negative.

Mr. ROBERT PALMER, Mr. H. HERBERT, and Sir J. PAKINGTON, supported the amendment.

Lord PALMERSTON did not see the logic of the conclusion that, because the Government had not sufficient materials with respect to Ireland, it should not read this bill a second time. It was feared that there would be a deluge of Irish paupers in England; but how were they to come over, and who were to send them? It was not likely they would come at their own expense. Some might, perhaps, be sent by subscription from towns in Ireland, near the coast, to lighten their burdens. While, therefore, on the one hand, the Irish labourer should be protected from arbitrary removal, means should be adopted, on the other, to prevent abuses, and it struck him that, if Parliament were to say that to entitle an Irish pauper to be irremovable he should have been engaged for a twelvemonth in industrial occupation in the town where he sought to obtain relief, it would tend to prevent the abuse of sending over Irish paupers. After all, the number of removals of Irish paupers was much smaller than was generally apprehended. Further information was, however, necessary; but this was no reason why the House should not proceed with the second reading of this bill. Before it was committed the Government might be able to state the nature of the measure they proposed.

After some further discussion, the House divided, when the adjournment of the debate was carried (against the Government) by 209 to 183. The second reading of the bill therefore stands for the 24th of April.

WAR WITH RUSSIA—HER MAJESTY'S MESSAGE.

On Monday afternoon the avenues of Westminster-hall and of the Peer's entrance to the House of Lords were occupied by a large assemblage of persons anxious to see Her Majesty's Ministers come down to Parliament with the declaration of war against Russia. The Lord Chancellor took his seat upon the woolsack at a few minutes before five o'clock, at which hour the ladies' gallery on either side of the throne was filled with peeresses. The space below the bar was crowded with members of the House of Commons and others having the privilege of the *entrée*. There was a large attendance of peers both on the Ministerial and Opposition benches. After the presentation of petitions, the Earl of ABERDEEN (whose rising was followed by a loud cry of "Order, order!") advanced to the table and said,—"A message from the Queen, my Lords." The noble Earl having handed Her Majesty's Message to the clerk-assistant, Mr. Lefevre, it was by him taken to the Lord Chancellor. The LORD CHANCELLOR, rising, read the Message, amid the breathless silence of the House, as follows:—

VICTORIA REGINA,

Her Majesty thinks it proper to acquaint the House of Lords that the negotiations in which Her Majesty, in concert with her allies, has for some time past been engaged with His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, have terminated, and that Her Majesty feels bound to afford active assistance to her ally the Sultan against unprovoked aggression.

Her Majesty has given directions for laying before the House of Lords copies of such papers, in addition to those already communicated to Parliament, as will afford the fullest information with regard to the subject of these negotiations. It is a consolation to Her Majesty to reflect, that no endeavours have been wanting on her part to preserve to her subjects the blessings of peace.

Her Majesty's just expectations have been disappointed, and Her Majesty relies with confidence on the zeal and devotion of the House of Lords, and on the exertions of her brave and loyal subjects to support her in her determination to employ the power and resources of the nation for protecting the dominions of the Sultan against the encroachments of Russia.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, having read her Majesty's Message, handed it to the reading clerk, Mr. L. Edmonds, who, taking it to the table, again read the Royal Message, in such a tone as to be entirely intelligible, even to those who had just heard it audibly read by the Lord Chancellor.

The Earl of CLARENDON, then rising, said: My lords, on Friday next I shall move that her Majesty's most gracious Message be taken into consideration.

The Earl of DERBY made a few remarks:—

On Friday I presume that the noble earl, or the noble earl at the head of the Government, will take the opportunity of stating fully, not only the causes which have led to this unfortunate rupture of our amicable relations with Russia—for with those we are partially acquainted—but that he will also state the precise objects that we have in view in entering upon this war, the objects that we seek to obtain by it, and whether there are any conventions or any other engagements into which we have entered with France or the Porte binding us to any specific object. If there are any such, I have no doubt they will be found among the papers which her Majesty holds out the expectation of laying before the House, and I will only express my earnest anxiety that, under these considerations, the Government will state whether or not there is any truth in the report that has been circulated during the last few days, that in this convention there are articles between us, France, and Turkey, which will be of a nature to establish a protectorate on our part as objectionable at least as that which, on the part of Russia, we have protested against. I will not say a single word more, as on Friday, of course, the noble earl will be prepared with such a statement as will induce us to concur in the address in answer to the gracious Message of Her Majesty, and with regard to which it is not necessary for me to say, that Her Majesty will not rely in vain upon the support of all classes and denominations of her subjects for the maintenance of the honour and dignity of this country in a just, necessary, and honourable war, and in taking such vigorous measures as may be necessary to bring that war to a speedy and honourable termination. (Cheers.)

Earl GREY added a few words:—

I will only add, that I trust that in the address in answer to Her Majesty's Message the Government will take care so to draw that address that there will be no difficulty in its being unanimously adopted by your lordships. (Cheers.) Because, whatever our opinions may be as to the past, we must all concur in the desire that this address shall be unanimously adopted (hear, hear); and I hope that it will be so framed as not to express any opinion as that any noble lords may find a difficulty in concurring in, either on the grounds that the war might have been avoided by abstaining from all interference, or by more vigorous steps having been taken at an earlier period. I hope that no difficulty will be interposed in the way of those who are not altogether satisfied with the course which has been pursued upon either of those grounds so as to prevent them from concurring in the address on Friday. (Hear, hear.)

The discussion upon the great event of the evening having thus terminated, many of the peeresses and others shortly afterwards withdrew.

A similar communication was made by Lord John Russell to the House of Commons, to an unusually large House. He also announced that the message would be taken into consideration on Friday next.

MINISTERS' MONEY (IRELAND) BILL.

On Monday night the House of Commons went into committee on this bill.

In clause 2, it having been proposed by Sir J. Young to fill up the blank with the words "ten pounds," Mr. FAGAN moved, as an amendment, that the blank be filled up with the words "twenty pounds," his object being to exempt all houses under that value from the payment of ministers' money. In the city of Dublin, where the great amount of the tax was paid, very little benefit would result, he said, from the proposition to fix the sum, below which houses should be exempted, at so low an amount as £10. Sir J. YOUNG said that, as the bill was the result of a compromise of opinion, it would not be fair to depart from the understanding which the House had on a previous occasion come to. Mr. HUME was sorry that the Government, on reconsideration, had not abolished the whole of the tax. Its amount was only £15,000, and the money might be supplied from other sources. The committee divided, when the numbers appeared:—For Mr. Fagan's amendment, 77; against it, 92; majority, 15.

Mr. HADFIELD then proposed that the blank be filled up with the words "fifteen pounds." He said that the tax had been imposed by the worst Government that ever ruled in this country; and it was a tax in favour of one-sixth portion of the Irish people, having already £600,000 a-year for their religious purposes. He regretted that this offensive tax should be advocated by a Liberal Government. It was a bill which should be called "A bill for preventing the growth of Protestantism in Ireland." He lamented the bill being brought forward, and particularly at a time when all religious disputes should cease, and all minds be united. But, should it pass, let it not be supposed that that would terminate the contest.

METROPOLITAN INTERMENTS.

The Bishop of LONDON, on Monday, called the attention of the House of Lords to the great evils which had resulted from the recent measure respecting metropolitan interments. He held in his hand a petition from the clergymen of sixteen parishes in the east and north-east of London, who declared that they were able to prove that the operation of a measure which had been intended to produce a great improvement in the sanitary state of the metropolis had, to a certain extent, increased the evil. The measure of which the petitioners complained was the order of the Secretary of State, requiring the closing of burial-grounds in the metropolis. Notwithstanding that the poor man's right of burial was taken away, no provision was made for interments elsewhere. Nearly, if not quite the whole, of the burial-grounds in the metropolis were closed by the order of the Secretary of State, but many of the larger parishes had been enabled to provide cemeteries as substitutes. The poorer parishes, however, and especially those in the north-eastern part of the metropolis, had taken no steps whatever to provide means for the interment of the poorer portion of their population, and, in consequence, various evils were created, which fell heavily both upon the clergy and upon the poor. In the first place, the clergy were deprived of a considerable portion of their incomes, amounting, in some cases, to three-fourths. He held that the emoluments and fees arising to the clergy from burials were as much the rights of the clergy as tithes. The expenses incurred by the friends of deceased persons in providing for funerals were now so much increased, that in some cases they had been obliged to fall back upon the parish for relief and become paupers. In addition, such funerals were accompanied with a great violation of decency; and it was a singular anomaly, that the only burial places exempted from the operation of the order were two Dissenters' burying grounds. The effect of the closing of burial places in populous parishes was this—in many cases dead bodies were allowed to remain in the miserable habitations of the poor for so great a length of time that they became the cause of the infection, and thus rendered the order of the Secretary of State a source of disease instead of one of sanitary improvement. It was not too late for their lordships and the other House of Parliament to step in and make it compulsory, in parishes where the burial-grounds were closed, to award compensation to the clergy for the loss of their rights, and still more to make some provision for the decent interment of the poor. He moved that returns be made of the metropolitan parishes (exclusive of the City of London), with their several populations, which have not provided for themselves parochial cemeteries or other burial-grounds. He excluded the City of London, because the proper steps had already been taken there under the directions of the Commissioners of Sewers, and he thought the suburbs should be made to adopt similar measures.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said, the statement just made to the House exhibited a degree of hardship, both as regarded the clergy and the poor of the metropolis, which was rather appalling, and which called imperatively for the intervention of Parliament and the Government in order to do what was possible to afford relief. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of SHAFESBURY concurred with the right rev. prelate that the present state of things was most injurious to the clergy, and at the same time produced the most serious effects on the great mass of the poor. With regard to the latter point, although under the old system it had often been found that the poor had a great unwillingness to incur the expense of burying their dead, under the new system it was much greater, and he had known of instances where dead bodies had been kept for ten, twelve, fourteen, and even eighteen days in a single room already occupied by ten living persons. He believed that the consequences of the present state of things, if it were allowed to continue until the cholera arrived, would be most fearful, and would produce one of the most terrible calamities which could ever befall any nation.

The Earl of HARROWBY hoped that, besides providing places of burial, something would be done to

provide places where dead bodies might be deposited until they were buried. It must be remembered, that they had to deal with the burial of the dead of 2,500,000 people, and if they listened to every objection of parish officers, whose authority was interfered with, or every objection raised by the vague cry against centralization, they would not be doing their duty.

The Bishop of LONDON said, it had originally been his intention to move for a select committee on the subject, but he had felt convinced that, after the statement which he was able to make, and after the inquiries which had probably been made by members of the Government, it must be taken up by the Government, and some remedy applied promptly and vigorously.

The petition was then ordered to be laid on the table, and the returns moved for by the right rev. prelate were agreed to.

CHURCH BUILDING ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL.

On Monday, on the question that the House do resolve itself into a committee on this bill, Mr. HADFIELD contended that the continuance of these acts should be limited to one year.

Lord PALMERSTON stated that, as the bill now stood, it was to continue the acts for ten years. Many gentlemen had made suggestions respecting the consolidation of laws, boards, and various changes. These suggestions were deserving of consideration; but a certain time would be required in order that they might be so considered. He should have no objection to limit the bill for two years; but to state a shorter period than this would be trifling with the House, and render it impossible, either for himself or any gentleman in his position, to undertake to say whether the suggestions made should be carried into effect or not.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD agreed with the hon. member for Sheffield that the continuance of these acts should be limited to one year. It was well known that these acts were of the most complicated structure; an attempt had been made to consolidate them, but this had only made matters worse, and was abandoned. There was no reason why there should be any consolidation of the laws or continuance of the commission beyond a limited period, for there was in existence the act of 6th and 7th of Victoria, commonly known as Sir Robert Peel's Act, under the provisions of which 250 parishes had been constituted, and by a simple extension of this the further subdivision of parishes throughout the kingdom might be effected.

Mr. R. PHILLIMORE said that these acts were about as disgraceful a specimen of ecclesiastical legislation as the enemies of the Church could desire. He considered that these were reasons why the proposition of the noble lord the member for Tiverton to limit the bill for two years should be accepted; to continue the acts for ten years would be far too long.

The House then went into committee on the bill.

On clause 1, Mr. HADFIELD moved, as an amendment, that the bill should be limited to one year from the passing of the act, and till the end of the then next session of Parliament. It was high time that the various acts referred to in the bill were consolidated. The expenses of the commission amounted to £19,000 a-year, though the amount given by the Government for church-building purposes had long ago been expended, by far the greater portion of the money laid out in the erection of churches having been supplied by voluntary contributions.

Mr. ALCOCK seconded the amendment, and contended for the consolidation of the acts. Ten years ago Dr. Lushington framed a bill for the consolidation of all these statutes, and this bill, he believed, was still to be had at the Home-office.

Lord PALMERSTON thought it of importance that not only the functions of the commission, but the very day on which those functions should cease, should be known to every one, and, accordingly, he proposed that the act should terminate in two years from the 20th of July next. As a practical man, he was sure his hon. friend would see it to be inadvisable to press his motion to a division. (Hear.)

Mr. HORSMAN begged to remind the House that this Church-building Commission was constituted to administer certain funds that were granted by act of Parliament to extend and improve the parochial system. In 1848 he was a member of a committee appointed to inquire into the working of the Ecclesiastical Commission, and on that occasion the secretary stated that the acts were so complicated that scarcely even a professional man could understand them; that all the funds now in the hands of this commission were £12,000, and a further sum owing to them of £17,000; and that the annual expense of the establishment was £5,000. But along with this Church-building Commission there were two other commissions sitting at the same time—viz., the Ecclesiastical Commission and the Queen Anne's Bounty Board. The Ecclesiastical Commission was chiefly composed of *ex-officio* members drawn from the episcopal bench, and Queen Anne's Bounty Board was formed partly of the same men. These three boards were indeed composed practically of the same members, and it was brought out that they met frequently on the same day and to administer nearly the same business at an expense of £15,000 a-year. He contended that, instead of having three separate boards, with a salary amounting, for the three, to £15,000 a-year, it would be better to have one lay board of practical men, to whom a salary might be given of £5,000 a-year, and thus £10,000 a-year would be saved to the country, and the business would be more efficiently performed.

The question was then put to fill up the blank with the words "20th of July, 1856," when the House divided, and the numbers were—

In favour of the clause	153
Against it	49
Majority in favour of the clause	104

The clause was then agreed to, and, the House having resumed, the report was brought up and received.

Sir J. YOUNG thought that the insertion of £15, instead of £10, would not at all meet the objection of the hon. member, who declared himself opposed to the bill altogether. The bill was not to apply to any future assessment. No house that should hereafter be built would be liable to the tax. Again, all houses rated under £10 a-year were to be exempt from the tax. Surely these were mitigations of the present law; but those who opposed the bill would allow the tax to remain in all its objectionable character. At present there were houses rated at less than £10 a-year. If hon. gentlemen negatived the bill those houses would still be subjected to the tax.

Mr. HUMS admitted that the bill was one of relief, but it was to the principle that he objected. Why not insert a clause to exempt all Roman Catholics from the tax.

Mr. MAGUIRE said, that the majority of the occupiers of houses in the towns of Limerick, Cork, and Kilkenny were Catholics, and this bill afforded them no relief. It was not the house but the occupier that paid the tax. But, even if the tax were transferred from the occupier to the landlord, it would not remove his objection to the bill, as it would only be removing the tax from the Catholic occupiers to Catholic proprietors. The tax had a most prejudicial effect on the political rights of parties. When he sat last year in the revision court, 300 persons were disfranchised by the nonpayment of the tax. They would not submit to the degradation of paying a tax to support the ministers of one religion in order that they might be qualified to vote for a person of another religion.

Mr. WHITESIDE said, that £11,000 a-year of this tax was paid by the city of Dublin, and he was convinced that three-fourths of it, or more, were paid by Protestants. Now, the nature of the grievance, such as it might be, should be understood. There was no remedy against the person for this tax—only against the house. But he did not believe the occupier would derive any benefit from the repeal of the tax, for, if he did not pay it as a tax, he would pay it in the shape of increased rent.

Mr. J. O'CONNELL hoped the Government would consider whether, after having made the concessions they had, it was worth while to battle for so small a remnant of a tax, which was so offensive to the feelings of a large majority of the people of Ireland?

Mr. PELLATT considered the question not one merely between Protestants and Catholics, but one that, in its political aspect, ought not to exist. Whether it was an annuity tax in Edinburgh, a minister's tax in Ireland, or church-rates in England, he could not perceive any distinction, either political or religious; and, if not, then this tax ought to be met in the same manner as the others.

Mr. FAGAN said, that all houses under £10 in the city of Dublin were unquestionably occupied by Roman Catholics. A great portion of the property in the city of Cork belonged also to Roman Catholics.

The committee then divided. The numbers were:—

Ayes	92
Noes	71
Majority	—21

The blank was then filled up with the words "ten pounds," and the clause was agreed to.

On the question that Clause 3 be agreed to, Mr. J. O'CONNELL moved an amendment, declaring that no houses, the property of Roman Catholics or Dissenters, should be rated for the payment of ministers' money. Sir J. YOUNG said, he could not assent to the amendment, which would alter the principle of the bill. Mr. HUMS could not concur in the right hon. gentleman's objection. The principle of the bill was merely this—to raise a certain sum for ministers' money. He was of opinion that every man should pay his own parson as he did his own doctor.

Mr. MAGUIRE contended, that religious feeling was inseparable from the question. The money raised by the tax was paid to Protestant clergymen for the cure of souls. Whose souls did they cure? Not those of the Catholics. He would not let them cure his soul. (Laughter.) That the tax was a personal one was evident from this fact, that it was not levied upon any house that was unoccupied.

Lord PALMERSTON thought it would be unwise on the part of Roman Catholics to lay too much stress on the doctrine that persons of one religion should not contribute anything towards matters unconnected with their own religion. How would that doctrine apply to the allowances made to Roman Catholic chaplains attending soldiers? How would it apply to the grant to Maynooth and to other matters in which Roman Catholics were interested? (Hear.) The adoption of the amendment would be productive of endless absurdities. Every man who purchased a house knew that he bought it subject to the tax, and it was a matter which had nothing to do with religious feeling.

Mr. HADFIELD said that the Church of England, misnamed "national," was the church of only one-fourth of the population of the united kingdom.

Mr. LUCAS said, the Roman Catholics would be glad to accept the challenge thrown out by the noble lord, and forego all votes of public money on condition that the same rule should be applied to all other religious bodies. (Hear, hear.)

The committee then divided. The numbers were:—

Ayes	71
Noes	92
Majority	—21

The amendment was therefore negatived.

Mr. FAGAN moved the addition of the following proviso to the same clause:—

"Provided always, that on or before the 25th day of March in every year after the passing of this act, it shall be ascertained by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for Ireland, and declared by them in the *Dublin Gazette*, what increase of income the said commissioners have obtained during the year preceding the said 25th day of March, by reason of the avoidance during the year of benefices or of bishoprics, or by reason of the increase of the tax payable from benefices and bishoprics; and the said increased

amount of income in each year shall be deducted from the whole assessment to be levied as aforesaid from the said eight cities and towns, and the commissioners shall thereupon notify to the collector-general, to the town-clerks, and boards of guardians aforesaid respectively, the proportion the said reduced sum, which is to be collected in each city or town respectively, to be ascertained according to the proportion which the amount each said city or town has to pay the first year after the passing of this act, bears to the entire sum to be levied the said first year, and so on every succeeding 25th day of March in every year until the entire of said assessment is wholly reduced and extinguished."

Sir J. YOUNG opposed the amendment, which must, he said, have been proposed by the hon. gentleman under a misapprehension with regard to the funds in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. They merely held the money now in their hands until it should be called for, in order to carry out various objects to which it was to be devoted. One of the most important of those objects was the augmentation of small livings, not one of which had yet been augmented in Ireland. There were several livings under £100 a-year, and it was surely no exorbitant demand to ask that they should be increased to £200 a-year. Mr. HADFIELD supported the amendment, on the ground that all the surplus funds in the hands of the commissioners ought to be applied towards the diminution of this offensive tax. The committee divided. The numbers were:—

Ayes	76
Noes	96
Majority against the amendment	—19

Mr. MAGUIRE said, he objected to compelling town councils and boards of guardians to collect taxes or stipends for ministers, as those bodies had been constituted for purposes of a very different description. He should therefore move that the clause be omitted. A division at once took place, when the amendment was lost by a majority of 99 to 72, and the clause was agreed to. So also were clauses from 4 to 10 inclusive, with only verbal amendments.

Mr. VANCE then proposed a clause providing compensation to collectors of the rate, who, owing to the passing of the present bill, might be deprived of their employment. He observed that many of these persons had been collectors for the long period of thirty years, that some of them were very aged, and that they must consequently be thrown upon the world unless some compensation was afforded to them. He believed that compensation had been granted in the Dublin Improvement Bill and other similar cases, and he trusted that there would be no opposition to the proposition which he now submitted to the committee. Mr. NAPIER and Mr. GROGAN supported the clause.

Sir J. YOUNG opposed it. He had made inquiries and found that the people in question had not been recognized in any way as public servants. Mr. HUMS and Mr. AGLIONBY also opposed the clause. The committee then divided, when the numbers were:—

For the clause	18
Against	144
Majority against the clause	—126

MISCELLANEOUS.

On Wednesday, Mr. EVELYN withdrew his Vostries Bill—Mr. FITZROY pointing out that it conferred large and arbitrary powers upon irresponsible bodies, and that the provisions were of such a nature that it would be impossible to carry them out.

The Sligo Election Committee have reported to the House that John Sadleir, Esq., was duly elected to serve as a Burgess in the present Parliament, and that acts of bribery had been committed, but that there was no proof that such acts of bribery were committed by the consent or with the knowledge of Mr. Sadleir.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) Bill, the Exchequer Bills (£1,750,000) Bill, the Coasting Trade Bill, and the Mutiny Bills.

In the House of Lords, on Friday night, the Duke of NEWCASTLE, in reply to the Earl of MALMESBURY, stated that the name of the contractor, who had supplied forage containing filth and rubbish for the horses proceeding to the East, was not Sturgeon, but Sturgeon—Thomas Sturgeon and Sons, of Grays, Essex. Lord CAMPBELL gave it as his opinion that such an offence was punishable by the common law of England. Lord BROUGHAM having remarked that other legal authorities had come to a different conclusion, the Duke of NEWCASTLE said that the matter had been placed in the hands of the solicitor to the department in which the fraud was committed, and, if he deemed a prosecution warrantable, the offenders would be immediately proceeded against.—On Monday, the Duke of NEWCASTLE presented a petition from Messrs. Sturgeon and Sons, earnestly praying for an inquiry into the truth of the charge lately made against them, of an attempted fraud in the fulfilment of their contract for the supply of hay to the Eastern expedition.

The Common Law Procedure Bill was read a second time in the House of Lords on Friday. In the course of the conversational discussion of the measure, carried on by Lord BROUGHAM, Lord CAMPBELL, the Lord CHANCELLOR, and Lord ST. LEONARDS, the Earl of WICKLOW protested against the clause substituting declarations for oaths at the discretion of the judge. The Duke of ARGYLL defended the clause. Why should not the same dispensation be extended to persons entertaining conscientious objections to taking oaths, who were not Quakers, Separatists, or Moravians? He perfectly concurred in the propriety of extending the alteration to Scotland; and believed that when the system was once adopted in England, a very short time would elapse before it was also adopted in Scotland.

In reply to Mr. EWART, on Friday, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT said he trusted that before long some change might be made with the view of rendering the officers' uniform more simple and useful, and more similar to that of the men.

A new Trade Museum is shortly to be established in London.

ORPHAN WORKING-SCHOOL.

The Ninety-sixth Anniversary Festival of this very excellent Charity took place on Tuesday evening last, at the London Tavern, under the presidency of His Grace the Duke of Argyll. About 100 gentlemen attended the dinner, among whom were J. R. Mills, Esq., Thomas Barnes, Esq., M.P., Mr. Sheriff Wire, Sir A. Rothschild, Samuel Morley, Esq., Alderman Foster, of Cambridge, Alderman Solly, of Sheffield, Henry Wills, Esq., and Conrad Frugel, Esq., of Bristol, besides friends from many other influential places.

The cloth having been removed, His Grace proposed the usual loyal toasts—"The Queen," "The Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family," and were succeeded by the "Army and Navy." The latter toast was drunk amid general and repeated applause.

The noble Chairman, in proposing the next toast—"Prosperity to the Orphan Working School"—said, he rejoiced in this and all kindred institutions, and would always select them as the objects worthy of special benevolence, on this important ground, that philanthropists may give their money with the full assurance that their bounty will be well bestowed. (Hear, hear.) This was no young institution. (Hear.) It had been well tried and tested during a period extending over nearly a hundred years. (Hear, hear.) It had conducted the education of a large number of young persons—not far short of sixteen hundred—and launched them into life. (Hear, hear.) It had given them, not only a general, but also an industrial education, which in the case of such children especially was of the very highest importance. (Hear, hear.) This was an institution, therefore, intimately connected with the great cause of education—a question on which he never spoke without feeling the very deepest regret that such an important cause as that of education undoubtedly was, could not be more efficiently promoted in England, as it was about to be in Scotland, by a public measure. (Hear, hear.) Special importance, therefore, he would suggest, attaches to this Orphan Working School; and there was no reason, whatever, why persons of all opinions should not render to it all the assistance in their power. (Hear, hear.) The education given was most admirable. The children were taken in at an early age; they were instructed in all those branches of knowledge best fitted for the spheres which it might be expected they would afterwards occupy; and when the time came for them to leave, they were not only placed in suitable situations, but had outfits provided, and a kindly supervision maintained over them for several years. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) And it must surely be regarded as a very interesting fact, that not a few of the poor orphans who had participated in the benefits of the charity in former years, had risen to honourable and influential stations in society, and were now the liberal subscribers and active friends of the institution. (Cheers.) But it was desirable to remember, also, not only that this was an institution which could be trusted, and one that was connected with the great cause of education, but that it was for the education of those who were orphans. (Hear, hear.) In looking over the list of subscriptions for the present year, he observed that only some £26 had been collected as the result of sermons on behalf of the charity; and he would respectfully suggest to the ministers present, and to all other gentlemen of their order, the friends to the society, to resolve, that in this respect, at all events, a marked improvement should be observed next year. (Cheers.) The noble Duke concluded by proposing the toast, which was drunk with great applause.

Other toasts followed in rapid succession, including "The noble Chairman, His Grace the Duke of Argyll," "The President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer," "Our Country Guests," "The Members of the House of Commons present," "The General Committee and Medical Officers of the Charity," and "the Ladies;" and they were severally spoken to by Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire, Mr. Barnes, M.P., Mr. Bennock, Alderman Solly, of Sheffield, Alderman Foster, of Cambridge, J. R. Mills, Esq., and other gentlemen. Subscriptions in aid of the school were announced during the evening to the amount of nearly £1,000. In the musical department a new glee, in honour of Prince Albert, was sung, the composition of the secretary, which is on sale for the benefit of the Charity.

THE IRISH CORRUPTION COMMITTEE.

Mr. Mowbray Morris, manager of the *Times*, was examined on Tuesday and Wednesday before the Committee on Irish Corruption. At the sitting on Tuesday, Mr. Moore called his attention to articles in the *Times* on the 19th September and 6th February, broadly imputing corruption to Irish members; and asked on what grounds those accusations were made? Mr. Morris said, he did not remember the circumstances under which the article in September was written; but with respect to the article in February, that was founded on the statements made by Dr. Gray in his Tuam speech. Mr. Morris told the committee, that if it were intended to ask him questions respecting the authorship of articles or intelligence not made public, on which the opinions of the conductors are formed, he must decline to answer them. It was then arranged that Mr. Morris should be summoned another day; and he accordingly came again before the committee on Wednesday. He was subjected to a very long and searching examination, first by Mr. Moore, then by Mr. Bright, Mr. Butt, and finally by Colonel Bentinck. Mr. Morris declined to answer any questions respecting the article of September, as being beyond the range of the present inquiry; but as the committee decided that he might be questioned upon it, he referred them to a letter published on the 16th, suggesting the article

of the 19th; but he could not say on what ground the statement in that letter was founded, nor say anything on authority, as manager of the *Times*, respecting it; nor would he express any opinion with respect to Dr. Gray's meaning, nor explain the article in the *Times*; leaving the committee to draw their own inferences. He might give his individual opinion as to whether he thought Irish members were paid for their votes, but no opinion as representing the *Times*.

Mr. Moore put this question twice: Have you heard any statements, or are you aware of any facts, which are calculated to warrant you in stating that all the Irish members are paid, and that they all vote for their pay?

Mr. Morris: I must decline to answer that question. It is not consistent with my duty, as far as I understand it, to answer the question.

Mr. Moore: The question is, are you aware of any facts.

Mr. Morris: That question is put to me as representing the *Times* newspaper; and I cannot disclose the information upon which the conductors act, and of which I happen to be cognizant in consequence of my position in the office.

Mr. Moore: And is it the custom at the *Times* office, and is it a fair specimen of the scruple and care and consideration the *Times* is in the habit of observing in bringing grave charges against public?

Mr. Butt (to the Chairman): Sir, I object to that question.

Mr. Moore (to the witness): Well, but if it were a private individual, instead of a public journal, who had made this accusation, do you not think he would in that case be called upon to state upon what grounds, opinion, or authority, he made such a statement?

Mr. Butt: Sir, I object to that question.

Mr. Moore: I insist on putting that question.

Mr. Morris: I decline to answer it.

Mr. Moore: Then I have no further questions to put.

Mr. Bright now examined the witness, with little more success. Mr. Morris said the practice of the *Times* was to insert only letters the writers of which they knew or believed they knew. He declined to answer whether the letter above referred to is or is not preserved, but he could not deny that he knew.

Mr. Bright: Would you lead the committee to infer that you could give us information affecting the hundred needy men, leaving only five of the whole representatives of the Irish people?

Mr. Morris: That question is not easy for me to answer, except in an indirect manner; and perhaps this is the proper time for me to state the reason why I have refused to answer any questions involving what I consider the secrets of the paper. With all respect to the committee, I submit that the question here involved is the independence of the press. I think that the press of this country—there being no censorship established by law—is amenable to no authority whatever except that of the courts of law; that not even a committee of the House of Commons has a right to question the conductors of the paper as regards the opinions they have expressed; and that there is no tribunal except the courts of justice which can compel them to do so. I think I should sacrifice the interests of the *Times*, and do a grievous injury to the press of this country, if I answered the question.

In reply to Mr. Butt, who took up the examination, Mr. Morris said it would be a matter for the conductors of a paper to determine whether they would or not give information with reference to the present or any inquiry. He would not say what information the *Times* may or may not have. At the close, he recorded his protest against the right of the committee to question him as to either the article of September or February, and bowing left the room.

Mr. Fottrell, a solicitor, and Mr. Gernon, a barrister, showed that a Mr. Coleman had paid £500 to a Mr. O'Callaghan to resign a Paymastership of Constabulary, to which Coleman was appointed by Sir William Somerville. The place was abolished shortly afterwards; and Mr. Coleman had taken the opinion of Mr. Napier as to the legality of the abolition of the office. It does not appear that Sir William Somerville was cognizant of the pecuniary transaction.

Mr. Dillon Croker stated, that in 1851 he wanted a Stipendiary Magistracy for his son; and he was told by a Mr. Thomas Lane that it could be obtained for £500, through a person in the City. Mr. Lane was examined, and unequivocally denied the statement of Mr. Croker: had he known such an appointment could have been obtained for that sum, he would have paid it himself. Both witnesses adhered to their statements.

Mr. G. H. Moore, M.P. stated, that a young man applied to him for a Postmastership, and offered "to do the usual thing." Mr. Moore inquired what that was; and he was told that the applicant would give his first year's salary for the appointment. Mr. Moore, of course, declined to recommend such an applicant.

Mr. Bright, M.P., was examined, and told of a conversation in a boat on the river that runs from Loch Gill to the sea, as he was going up to Sligo. The boatman spoke of the sale of places as notorious at Sligo—mentioning Mr. Patrick Somers. The boatman said, that on one occasion, when a drunken party were going up the river, a member of Parliament fell in: a man got him out, and the member promised him a place in the Coast Guard; subsequently, he was offered the place if he would pay £30 or £40; he could not, and another got the place. Mr. Bright read his memorandum on the occasion.

September 29, 1842—Boatman, a shoemaker—story of Pat Somers; sold his patronage—offered boatman a place in Coast Guard for £30 or £40; another got it through Andrew Walker, who did the business for him there—sales notorious—got more places for men in Sligo than any man ever did before.

Mr. William Dane, a solicitor, brought an accusation against Mr. Keogh. He said he had been informed that Edward Lynch, of Athlone, had in his possession documents proving that Mr. Keogh had induced a gentleman to accept bills for £1,000, on the promise of procuring him an appointment in the excise. The bills were protested, and the gentleman was ruined. Subsequently, Mr. Keogh obtained an appointment in the Excise for the son of that gentleman. He further

charged Mr. Keogh with heading a mob of two thousand persons in an attack on Athlone on the night before the election.

Mr. Lambert Smith, son of Colonel Smith, the gentleman mentioned above, said that his father had assisted Mr. Keogh with bills to meet his election expenses, partly for friendship, and partly for the sake of the Peelite cause. There was no promise of any appointment; and Colonel Smith was not ruined—he went to Canada, but that was to facilitate the sale of his commission. Mr. Keogh had paid a portion of the bills.

In consequence of the character of the imputation against him, Mr. Keogh announced his intention of applying to the House to be discharged from the committee.

NORTH LONDON INDUSTRIAL HOME FOR DESTITUTE BOYS.

A very crowded and influential meeting of the inhabitants of Islington, was held on Friday night last, March 24th, at Baker's Rooms, 107, Upper-street, Islington, in support of the provisional committee of the North London Industrial Home for Destitute Boys, at No. 16, Bryan-street, Copenhagen-street, Caledonian-road. The chair was taken by Mr. Alderman Challis, M.P., who was loudly cheered on entering the hall and taking his seat. The Rev. J. Cohen (Chaplain of the City Prison, Holloway) commenced the proceedings by prayer.

The CHAIRMAN, in his opening speech, dwelt upon the importance of all efforts for reforming the criminal. It was true, he said, that there were places of worship open on the Sabbath day—that they had missionaries in all parts of the metropolis—that there were Sunday and day-schools in almost every district; but there was a class of beings whom those blessings did not reach. According to the last census there was one-third who did not go to any place of worship. If that class did not go to any place of worship, they, consequently, could not have read the word of God, and, of course, had no knowledge of a Supreme Being! In his opinion, crime and criminals had been too much neglected; poverty was lightly talked of by many who knew nothing of it practically. There were many poor women—many of them widowed mothers—who went out to work to earn a livelihood, and whose children were left uncared for; they were then picked up by the criminal population who were ever on the look out. Those poor boys were then not thieves, but they became associates of thieves; for whenever a little boy was taken before a magistrate for picking a pocket, or similar offences, it was invariably stated by the police that there was a whole "covey" of them. None knew more about these matters than did magistrates; and he could say from his own knowledge that there were several thousands of lads between the ages of ten years and fourteen years who were thus placed. If a lad were seen in prison for a second offence, it would be, as he himself witnessed not long since, when, seeing a lad in prison a second time, he said, "Did you not promise me that if you once had your liberty you would not come here again—that you would lead a life of honesty?" The answer was, "Oh! yes, sir, I did; but you do not know what it is to starve. I was driven to starvation before I took to thieving again." The intention of the founders of this institution was, that those poor boys, by its agency, should be prevented from becoming thieves, and enabled to become useful members of society. He believed there were at present eighteen boys in the institution. Now, he was sure that in that district there was sufficient property, energy, and earnestness, to enable the meeting to say that the number shall be made 100. The object of the institution was both unsectarian and economical. It was also efficient. Ragged-schools were very good institutions, but the Refuge was better, for it took the poor boys from the evils attending their course of life. This Refuge not only professed to teach the boys to do what was right, but also to prevent their doing wrong under bad influences. If this institution was taken up as all questions were in Islington, that good would be done to those poor children that would be an example to the country all over. (Cheers.)

A brief report of the first half-year's operations was then read, from which it appeared that the "Home" was opened on the 2nd of August last; three persons of small means having made themselves responsible for the rent, which is £60 per annum. Eighteen orphans or destitute boys have been admitted, but there is room for forty. They are fed, clothed, lodged, and taught a trade, as tailor, or shoemaker. Two lads have been apprenticed out to shoemakers, without any premium. Applications have been received for three others as tailors. The conduct of the boys has greatly encouraged the friends of the institution. From the statement of assets and liabilities it appears that the expenditure has been £316 5s. 11d.; and that there is a balance against the institution of £137 8s. 4d.

The Rev. JAMES COHEN moved:—

That this meeting having heard the Report of the Provisional Committee, is of opinion that the North London Industrial Home for Destitute Boys well deserves public sympathy and support.

Mr. Cohen described the almost certain ruin that overtook the poor lads, enticed into evil courses by hardened thieves, and to the profligacy and drunkenness to which they became addicted. Let them look at the future career of these poor unfortunates. In all probability, they would come to an early grave; for it was impossible to lead such a life without their constitutions being undermined. The most expensive thing that could be done with them was, to leave them alone; for the money spent in crime—at least in the punishment of criminals—in the year 1853, was more than sufficient to establish preventive institutions throughout the metropolis. It was absurd to say or imagine, that crime would ever be totally abolished, but certainly it might be prevented as far as possible. In a book of the Rev. Mr. Kingsmill's (Chaplain of Pentonville

Prison), it was stated that the cost of depredations, such as robbery, &c., amounted to upwards of £2,000,000 per annum. It became them, as Christians, to extend towards these poor boys the hand of Christian kindness and love. (Applause.)

Mr. Alderman Challis being obliged to leave the chair was occupied by Mr. James Marks.

The Rev. JOHN WISE seconded the resolution. The institution, he said, acted on the motto, "Prevention is better than cure," and he hoped that the motto would be acted up to. There was one little boy he wanted the institution to adopt; the father was in the work-house imbecile, the mother had five children to support by her labour as a washerwoman, and the boy in question had unfortunately taken to petty pilfering. Surely this was a case which should be attended to by a Christian people, if possible to prevent him becoming one of the vagrant outcasts whose only reformation was the prison discipline.

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that Mr. Alderman Challis had, on leaving the chair, left a donation of five guineas, and also that a gentleman said he would give £5 on the admission of a boy in whom he took an interest.

The Rev. W. DABY, moved the next resolution:—

"Deeply sensible of the importance of carrying on the work in an efficient manner, this meeting earnestly hopes that some means may be adopted by an enlarged and influential committee being formed without delay."

He had visited the institution, and testified to its usefulness and admirable management. He hoped the institution would receive that support from the people of Islington which its importance demanded.

The Rev. A. J. MORRIS, in seconding the resolution, said that they had been told how great were the objects and capabilities of the institution, and the meeting was asked by the resolution, not for money but for practical assistance—not to put their names on the committee, but to contribute time, thought, action, attention, and will, to the working of the institution. If only one or two were to do that, it would be attended with beneficial results. They must pay for, and deal with, the criminal somehow—must either pay for crime or preventative. Now they were asked to support a preventative system—which would be the best course to adopt? He would let those present reflect on that question, and he felt confident as to the conclusion that would be arrived at.

Mr. FERRY, school-agent to the Ragged School Union, supported the resolution, and bore his testimony to the practical good working of this institution.

The Rev. Mr. McGuire briefly supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

On the motion of the Rev. Mr. GLASS, a vote of thanks was passed to the chairmen of the evening which was acknowledged by Mr. Marks.

The Doxology having been sung, the Rev. Mr. McGuire pronounced the benediction, and the meeting broke up.

CIVIC BANQUET TO HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

Her Majesty's Ministers were entertained by the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion-house, on Saturday, when a numerous and distinguished body of guests were partakers of civic hospitality. It was remarked that the attendance of the representatives of Foreign Powers was unusually large. Most of the members of the Cabinet and of the Government were present. Lord J. Russell, Lord Palmerston, and Sir J. Graham were, however, prevented from attending by illness or unavoidable engagements. The Lord Mayor, in giving "The Army and Navy," spoke of that day as a memorable one for England—being the last day of European peace, if report spoke truly. Lord HARDINGE, in returning thanks for the army, said:—

Deprecating, as I do, every recourse to war which can be avoided, and lamenting to hear from your lordship that this may be the last day of peace, I nevertheless have no hesitation in saying that I am proud to return thanks for the army if they are about to be employed, because I believe that the conduct of this country, in endeavouring so long to avert war, and its disinterested and honourable efforts to maintain the independence of our ally, and to resist the unjustifiable aggressions that have been made upon him, justify us in having recourse to arms—peace, I fear, being altogether hopeless. (Hear, hear.) As I see at this table so many of my gallant brethren who are under orders for employment in the expedition to the East, I may beg leave to say to them, and to this assembly, that I have no doubt that the military operations that may take place will be conducted with great skill and energy under the command of my noble friend Lord Raglan. (Loud cheers.) That gallant officer was for many years the companion, side by side, of the Great Duke on many momentous and memorable occasions (hear, hear); and during the last thirty years of peace he was also the military secretary and the confidential friend of the late gallant Duke, and was highly esteemed both by his Grace and by the army. (Cheers.)

Admiral BERKELEY, in responding on behalf of the navy, expressed his regret that he had not had the honour of being associated "with that gallant band, who are about to uphold their country's cause in the Baltic." Respecting the commander of that expedition, he said:—

The gallant admiral (Sir C. Napier) will, no doubt, wait patiently for the right opportunity to strike; but when he does strike I am sure he will strike boldly, and he will strike home. (Loud cheers.)

To the toast, "Her Majesty's Ministers," the Earl of Aberdeen responded in the following remarks:—

It is in moments of national difficulty and trial that these testimonies of the support and goodwill of our fellow-countrymen become doubly valuable, and at a moment like the present, you may believe that they are fully appreciated by us. My Lord Mayor, in this hall, a year ago, I declared that the policy of her Majesty's Government was a policy of peace. (Hear, and cheers.) I re-

peated that declaration elsewhere, and, indeed, on all possible occasions, and, if our expectation has been disappointed, it has not been for want of efforts to realize that policy. (Hear, hear.) Indeed, if this had not been the case, if the truth and sincerity of our declarations had not been admitted, we should not have received that general assent and support throughout the country which it has been our fortune to experience. (Loud cheers.) I shall not think it inconsistent if, even at this crisis, I repeat that declaration, for although it is too true that very shortly we may have to seek peace by other means than those which we have hitherto employed, still peace is our main object. (Hear, hear.) And, my Lord Mayor, in pursuing this object, it is a great satisfaction to her Majesty's Government to be acting with an ally from whom we have from the first experienced the utmost cordiality, truth, and loyalty. (Loud cheers.) I recollect that my distinguished friend (Count Walewski), whom I see near me, joined with me last year in the hope of peace. I have no doubt we shall pursue that object together and by the same means (cheers), and, although war may be carried on with vigour and with energy, still I think we must entertain a firm resolution to terminate that war as speedily as it possibly can be terminated, consistently with the national honour. (Loud cheers.)

The health of the foreign Ministers was acknowledged by Count WALEWSKI, the French Ambassador, in a speech in which he emphatically reproduced Louis Napoleon's declaration—"The age of conquest had passed, never to return," and dwelt upon the advantages to both countries of that alliance which had been cemented between them. He was very much cheered.

The BISHOP of LONDON, in responding to "the Church," touched upon the evils of war, at the same time heartily thanking her Majesty's Ministers for their persevering efforts to avert it. The warlike spirit which seemed now to be kindled among the people of this country, and especially in our crowded towns, rendered it more than incumbent upon the ministers of religion to inculcate peaceful feelings, to set before the people the real horrors of war, and to teach them that, while even these horrors were to be encountered for the great object in view, the establishment of permanent peace, it was the duty of all to offer up their prayers to the Supreme Disposer of all events that it might please Him, in His wisdom and goodness, to put an end to the calamities which were impending over the civilized world. (Hear, hear.)

The LORD CHANCELLOR returned thanks on behalf of the House of Lords. He trusted he would not be deemed guilty of presumption when he said, that in the post which he had the honour to occupy, and which placed him by universal consent, by usage, and by the sanction of law, at the head of the House of Lords, he exhibited in his own person a sort of speaking evidence that that body was a great democratic as well as aristocratic institution (hear, hear), for the president of that assembly was invariably one who, like himself, had sprung from the middle ranks of the people. (Hear, hear.)

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER next responded for "the Commons," which body he praised for having, throughout a long experience, and in severe stormy trials, known how to maintain its rights and privileges, at the same time that it respected the rights and privileges of others.

In other years the Government had had more flattering accounts to present to the country, and less urgent demands to make upon the nation. It had been the happy fortune, even of the present advisers of the Crown, to make proposals to Parliament, in days less critical and under necessities less urgent, which had had the effect of greatly lightening the burdens of the people, and of assisting to enlarge the resources of our industry and of our commerce. (Cheers.) At the present day the case was far otherwise. It had been the duty of her Majesty's Government, within the last few weeks, to urge upon Parliament to make additions to the charge that weighed upon the people; for great public purposes connected with the honour and the duty of the country, and it had been the choice and the pleasure of the House of Commons to answer readily to that call; and, as a member of the Government and a representative of the people—in either capacity—he could not too strongly express his sense of the manner in which that demand had been met, not only within the walls of Parliament, but throughout the country (cheers), without the slightest symptom of murmur or dissatisfaction. (Renewed cheers.) He believed if they sought the reasons of that reception, they would be found, first, in the free institutions with which this country was blessed; and, secondly, in the conviction which pervaded every class and every rank of the community, that if a time had arrived for increased demands and augmented burdens, at least the devoted endeavours of the Government and of Parliament had not been wanting to avert that unhappy necessity (cheers); and, as the Government and Parliament had used every effort to avert such necessity, there was a conviction that now, when that necessity had arisen, they would face it as became Englishmen, supported by the energies of their fellow countrymen, and by the sympathies of Christendom. (Loud cheers.)

Various other toasts followed, and were responded to by the Attorney-General, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Alderman Copeland, Mr. J. S. Wortley, and Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire.

THE PRESTON AND OTHER STRIKES.

The delegates arrested on Monday and Tuesday, in last week, with several others who had surrendered themselves—amounting in all to ten—have been committed for trial at the Liverpool Assizes. It appeared in evidence, that on the 27th of February last, about fifty or sixty of the "hands," hired by a Mr. Gallo-way, of Manchester, went to Preston, for the purpose of working at some of the mills. On the arrival of these people at Preston, they were surrounded by the men on strike, and, with the exception of about twelve, who were escorted to their places of work by the police, all were taken to a public-house. It did not appear that violence was used, or even threatened. One of the witnesses said, "We were not taken prisoners; we

were persuaded." The same witness, however, added afterwards, "I was afraid to go to work, seeing a great number of people about." While in the public-house the strangers were provided with eating and drinking. If they left the room they were accompanied by the men on strike. After remaining in Preston about nine or ten hours, they were conducted to the return train by their entertainers or captors, whatever they may be called, and despatched home again. They were told that they would be "excused" this time, but hints were given that this would not be the case in future. Whether it will be possible to prove the conspiracy of the leaders remains to be seen. One of them, Gallagher, was actively employed in distributing food to the men who were detained. Fragments of speeches were reported, which tended to show that the leaders contemplated the removal of the new hands, as they came, and had exulted in the success that had attended their measures of removal up to the present time; but injunctions to keep the peace invariably accompanied these expressions. This advice was observed with remarkable strictness during the three days that successive parties of the arrested were under examination. An immense concourse of operatives occupied the space in front of the Town-hall, but confined the expression of their excited feelings to the cheering with which they greeted their leaders when liberated on bail. Cowell and others were present, on Saturday afternoon, at a great meeting outside the town, but it was not considered advisable that they should speak.

Immediately after the result of the magisterial inquiry was known, a number of tradesmen and others met, and it was unanimously resolved that a "Delegated Defence Fund" be forthwith organized. A treasurer was appointed, and in a few minutes £10 10s. were handed in. Since that time, considerable sums have been collected; and, public sympathy being aroused on behalf of the committed delegates, there seems every probability of a large amount of money being speedily subscribed. A special levy of 2d. is to be made at Blackburn in aid of the object.

The importation of hands is still going forward, about 400 having been brought in during the week. It is stated, however, that little more than half of these are likely to be available as workers. Twenty-five hands imported by the associated masters have recently been sent back again, in consequence of their being dissatisfied with the prices offered them. The associated masters have met, and adjourned for three months.

All the Tyne seamen belonging to the union, and not bound by articles, left their ships on Saturday morning, and by a resolution of a public meeting of the North and South Shields seamen, held in the boats near the sea shore, were instructed to remain out on strike until the seamen of Sunderland and Hartlepool were communicated with. Accordingly, a large body of the seamen of South and North Shields and Newcastle assembled in South Shields market-place, and went in procession to Sunderland to meet the seamen of that port. They had two brass bands and numerous flags in the procession, which had quite a formidable appearance as it proceeded out of town. The strike is made against what the sailors term the "black leg" office, a society similar to the Master's Association at Preston, formed by the owners, with the object of breaking up the combination of the men, and manning their vessels with seamen who do not belong to the union. The moment chosen by the Shields men for the strike, is the most inopportune that could be thought of—freights are falling; vessels are prevented going into the Baltic and Russian trades; seamen are plentiful; and the owners are well organized. At the same time the seamen are quite disorganized, as a very great number of the married and more sober-minded of that body are strongly opposed to the strike, and have stoutly protested against it at the public meetings, a feeling of pride, and a dislike to be called "black legs," only preventing them from leaving the society. It was carried at the mess meeting, that the Sunderland men should strike, against the wishes of several of the Sunderland men, who spoke. A party of armed policemen have been sent down from Newcastle to protect the shipping.

Christopher Dixon, seaman, was killed by James Wilson, another sailor, in South Shields Market-place, on Thursday afternoon, while quarrelling about the wages and "black legs." Both men belonged to the union, but Wilson was drunk, and Dixon, a married man, was complaining of the overbearing conduct of some of the men, when Wilson accused him of being a "black leg," followed him as he was leaving a crowd where the quarrel had taken place, and struck him behind the ear, which caused an effusion of blood at the base of the brain, and instant death ensued. The coroner's jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter; and Wilson, a fine sailor, who cried like a child when sobered by the terrible reality of his deed, has been committed to prison.

The income reported on Sunday is larger than that of any previous week, except the Christmas week—about £2,400, exclusive of what is collecting for the Defence Fund; and, as a counter defiance to the masters' trimestrial adjournment, the delegates pledged their constituents to four months' subscriptions.

EXECUTION OF MOSES HATTO.

On Friday morning this criminal was executed at Aylesbury, for the murder of his fellow-servant, Mary Ann Sturgeon, at Burnham. He scarcely appeared to make a struggle. It is stated that, subsequently to his confession, his conduct was in every way becoming the awful position in which he was placed. The town the night preceding the execution was completely filled with the lowest society, and it was supposed that there were upwards of five thousand persons present to see the execution, a great number

of them being females, all in holiday attire, and "none appeared to enjoy themselves more on the occasion than a married couple, formerly fellow-servants of the culprit, who came a distance of twenty-seven miles on purpose to gratify their curiosity."

Some days previously to his execution, Hatto made, in the presence of the governor and chaplain of the county gaol, a detailed communication of all the occurrences which had caused ill-blood between him and the deceased, and eventually induced him to take her life. These statements resolve themselves into the simple fact, that he and the girl had a commonplace disagreement. She had asked him to lend her a little money, to which request he seems to have assented, but with a remark not altogether unnatural about the occasional insecurity of such loans. This observation appears to have annoyed the girl, who for some days afterwards "twitted" him with his conduct, and behaved generally in an ill-tempered manner towards him. Her aggravations, however, do not, even in his own description of them, appear to have exceeded the very commonest expressions of spite which might pass between two such people quarrelling; when, about three weeks after the original dispute, the girl went over to a neighbour's house to supper. Hatto, suspecting, as he said, that "something wrong was going on" about himself—that is to say, that he was being spoken ill of—took off his shoes, crept to the door of the house, and listened. He there overheard himself described as a "big eater," and goes on to say:—

I heard them talking about me, and Bunce said, "He's a very big eater, isn't he?" "Yes," said she, "he's a very big eater." "Well," said Bunce, "Mrs. Finch said he was a very big eater, but that he did not eat much bread; but I thought she was joking." Sturgeon said, "He's not a big bread eater, but he eats so much meat." Mrs. Bunce said, "I am glad that he has got his master." (Sturgeon had often beforetime jeered me, and said that she was "more of a man than I was." She was a very haughty woman.) "Leave him alone," said Sturgeon, "he's hanging himself every day. He'll soon do it. Leave him alone." That throwed me at once. I drove into an agony with it. To think that I had been working for her; neglecting my own work all day. How often had I favoured her, and denied myself, and stayed at home whilst she went out, and now for me to hear this! It drove vengeance upon me to hear her running me down to all eternity. They were then about parting, when, to prevent being seen by them, I leaped over the palings, went into the stable, finished my work, and went indoors for my supper. Then, to throw more madness upon me, instead of bringing me a pint of beer as usual, she brought me the pint half full. I could not eat my supper, but I drank my beer, and she asked me if I had had sufficient. I said, "I have sufficient." Those were the last words I ever spoke to her. She looked so evil at me, and I was so thrown, that I hardly knew—indeed, I did not know where I was, or what I did. I stood with my hand clenched, ready to strike her, but I could not. Then she went into the larder. I then took the iron lard-beater, and stood at the door, thinking to strike her down as she returned, but I could not do it, and, thinking to drive it out of my mind, I went out of doors. I wished I might hear my master returning home. Then I went in again. She again went into the lard-house. I again took up the lard-beater, and, on her return, I knocked her down in the passage.

Strange to say, when all was over, he does not appear to have been troubled with any feelings of remorse. He goes to his bedroom, changes his clothes because they were bloody, and returns "to look how the body was going on." He then goes to his master's room "to take away something for a blind, to make believe that some thief had been in the house." He wipes clean the bloody instrument of destruction. He burns the bloody string by which it was usually suspended. He cuts his bloody shoes to pieces with one of his master's razors. He takes every precaution to hide the articles which may be produced against him, and "then goes to lie down." His conduct up to the time of his apprehension was of a piece with that which had been displayed at the time of the murder. This is the amount of the murderer's confession.

The first portion of the embankment of the Thames on the north or Middlesex shore at Chelsea, and the construction of the approaches thereto and to the suspension bridge to cross the Thames to the new park at Battersea, commenced on Wednesday. It is intended to form an embankment on the south shore of the Thames from Vauxhall to Battersea, and a promenade and carriage drive for the use of the public.

The London Training Institution for Adult Male Criminals is deeply in debt. Its expenses are £3,000; its yearly income £600. An appeal has been made to the public for support by a meeting at Willis's Rooms, Lord Shaftesbury in the chair.

On Friday the first stone of this extensive range of buildings, about to be erected in the area enclosed by the corporation at Copenhagen-fields for a cattle market, was laid by Mr. Henry Lowman Taylor.

At a recent meeting of the London Farmers' Club, the subject of agricultural statistics was discussed; and a resolution passed, that the collection of such statistics by Government would be a public benefit, though of no particular advantage to farmers; and the farmers will assist the scheme, provided it be carried out in a manner as little inquisitorial as possible.

The election of the President of Christ's Hospital took place on Thursday. The candidates were the Lord Mayor, who claimed the office as a right of usage, and the Duke of Cambridge. The Lord Mayor was proposed by Mr. Henry Hoare, and seconded by Mr. Alderman Magnay; the Duke of Cambridge, by Mr. Thomson Hankey and Mr. Darby. Before the polling, the Lord Mayor handed in a protest against the whole proceedings. The result of the polling was, that the Duke of Cambridge received 216 votes; the Lord Mayor, 87. Subsequently, the Duke attended the Court, and took the chair, with the usual forms.

EXHIBITIONS AND ENTERTAINMENTS
OF THE SEASON.

THE National Institution of Fine Arts opened, on Thursday week, its annual exhibition at the Portland Gallery, opposite the Polytechnic. It is, we think, the largest and best collection of pictures the society has yet offered to the public, and is at least as well worth a visit as on any former year. The most remarkable contribution is certainly that of Miss Anna Mary Howitt,—"Goethe's Margaret Returning from the Fountain." As a first production, it gives promise of rare distinction, and marks an important accession to the ranks of the Pre-Raphaelites. Of that school we have another and less pleasing, though striking, example, in Mr. H. S. Mark's "Hamlet, Horatio, and Ophelia." The President, Mr. B. S. Lauder, exhibits the "Portrait of a Lady," whose face we admire less than her dress; and from another picture, by the same artist—"the Lady of Shalott"—we experience a like disappointment; a triumph of colour is obtained at the expense of human expression. Mr. Eckford Lauder has several pictures, the most ambitious of which—"The Ten Virgins"—suffers by comparison with its less pretentious neighbour—"The Babes in the Wood," by F. Underhill. The sketch of a Scottish Burn, also by Mr. E. Lauder, is so much more pleasing than either of his great pictures, that one wishes he painted nothing but landscapes. Mr. M'lan's attempt to render "The Fiery Cross" can hardly be pronounced a success; for though the principal figure is really effective, and has some remarkable traits, the subordinates fall below the required expression. Not so with Mr. Glass's "Flight of Mary Stuart from Lochleven;"—the fugitive beauty and her anxious conductor, the horses splashing through the flood, the moonlight fading in the dawn, with other accessories, are all admirably represented. A smaller but very meritorious piece is Mr. Wylie's torch-light scene of "Old Antwerp—Gateway of the Inquisition." Mr. T. Earl has several pictures of dogs, in which he is, as usual, admirable. We have not yet recalled all the pieces that we observed with pleasure, but can only further call attention to Miss Macerone's water-colour sketches of Westminster Abbey; and Mr. Boyce's, of views in Devonshire.

On the same day, the public—at least, a select public—were admitted to the "preliminary opening" of the edifice that has so long attracted the gaze of passers through Leicester-square. "The Panopticon" is a building of Saracenic exterior, internally, a circular hall, 97 feet in diameter, crowned by a dome exactly that height to the centre, and having two galleries. The pillars which support these galleries and the roof are inlaid with stained glass; the walls and roof are painted with profuse but not inharmonious hues; and while, by daylight, the general effect is warm and brilliant, we can well believe that, at an evening exhibition, it will be quite Oriental in its imposing splendour. In the centre of the floor is a basin, paved with encaustic tiles, and richly wrought in gold and blue; from which a jet of water is shot up to the dome, while several lesser jets leap and bend with graceful force. Another prominent object on the floor is the monster electrical engine; while in more retiring positions are works of art, some of which will be recognised as favourites in the British Sculpture Room of the Great Exhibition. A circular, covered car makes perpetual journeys up and down a square pillar, for the convenience of visitors to the photographic rooms, which are, however, also accessible by stairs. By far the most attractive feature of the institution is the organ—colossal in size, but ingeniously harmonised with the general style of the structure, and with the requirements of the optical department, in connection with which we are promised a diorama of unprecedented effectiveness. Lectures—on topics connected with literature and art, as well as natural philosophy—are also promised; and classes are in course of formation. Even in its present imperfect state, the Panopticon will so well repay a visit, that, when completed, it will doubtless prove a great addition to the attractive treasures of the metropolis.

The exhibition of the Harbour of Sebastopol, at the Gallery of Illustration, together with the View of Constantinople and the Overland Route to India, are about to close, after a deservedly successful run. But Mr. Albert Smith's Mont Blanc retains a perennial freshness. Piccadilly wears an aspect of excitement in the afternoon, from the numbers that still flock to this popular resort at the Egyptian Hall. The ascent of Mont Blanc, under the auspices of so lively and witty a guide, is the very thing to revive flagging spirits, and disperse the noxious vapours that gather around the mind. The spectator obtains a really vivid idea of the perils and excitement of the journey. His taste is gratified by the beauty of the scenes depicted—his information increased by Mr. Smith's descriptive sketches—and his nerves toned down into complete good humour by the mesmeric influence of a laughing audience. There is so nice an admixture of the *utile* and the *dulce*, that the visitor can scarcely fail to come away with the impression that he has gained some new ideas, and enjoyed a hearty laugh.

Postscript.

THE DECLARATION OF WAR.

(From a Supplement to last night's Gazette.)

DECLARATION.

It is with deep regret that Her Majesty announces the failure of her anxious and protracted endeavours to preserve for her people and for Europe the blessings of peace.

The unprovoked aggression of the Emperor of Russia against the Sublime Porte has been persisted in with such disregard of consequences, that after the rejection by the Emperor of Russia of terms which the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of France, and the King of Prussia, as well as Her Majesty, considered just and equitable, Her Majesty is compelled by a sense of what is due to the honour of her crown, to the interests of her people, and to the independence of the states of Europe, to come forward in defence of an ally whose territory is invaded, and whose dignity and independence are assailed.

Her Majesty, in justification of the course she is about to pursue, refers to the transactions in which Her Majesty has been engaged.

The Emperor of Russia had some cause of complaint against the Sultan with reference to the settlement, which his Highness had sanctioned, of the conflicting claims of the Greek and Latin churches to a portion of the Holy

Places of Jerusalem and its neighbourhood. To the complaint of the Emperor of Russia on this head, justice was done; and her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople had the satisfaction of promoting an arrangement to which no exception was taken by the Russian Government.

But while the Russian Government repeatedly assured the Government of her Majesty that the mission of Prince Menchikoff to Constantinople was exclusively directed to the settlement of the question of the Holy Places at Jerusalem, Prince Menchikoff himself pressed upon the Porte other demands of a far more serious and important character, the nature of which he, in the first instance, endeavoured, as far as possible, to conceal from her Majesty's Ambassador. And these demands, thus studiously concealed, affected not the privileges of the Greek Church at Jerusalem, but the position of many millions of Turkish subjects in their relations to their sovereign the Sultan.

These demands were rejected by the spontaneous decision of the Sublime Porte.

Two assurances had been given to Her Majesty—one that the mission of Prince Menchikoff only regarded the Holy Places; the other that his mission would be of a conciliatory character.

In both respects Her Majesty's just expectations were disappointed.

Demands were made which, in the opinion of the Sultan, extended to the substitution of the Emperor of Russia's authority for his own over a large portion of his subjects, and those demands were enforced by a threat; and when Her Majesty learnt that, on announcing the termination of his mission, Prince Menchikoff declared that the refusal of his demands would impose upon the Imperial Government, the necessity of seeking a guarantee by its own power, Her Majesty thought proper that her fleet should leave Malta, and, in co-operation with that of His Majesty the Emperor of the French, take up its station in the neighbourhood of the Dardanelles.

So long as the negotiation bore an amicable character, her Majesty refrained from any demonstration of force. But when, in addition to the assemblage of large military forces on the frontier of Turkey, the ambassador of Russia intimated that serious consequences would ensue from the refusal of the Sultan to comply with unwarrantable demands, her Majesty deemed it right, in conjunction with the Emperor of the French, to give an unquestionable proof of her determination to support the sovereign rights of the Sultan.

The Russian Government has maintained that the determination of the Emperor to occupy the Principalities was taken in consequence of the advance of the fleets of England and France. But the menace of invasion of the Turkish territory was conveyed in Count Nesselrode's Note to Rechid Pasha, of the 19th (31st) May, and re-stated in his despatch to Baron Brunnow of the 20th May (June 1), which announced the determination of the Emperor of Russia to order his troops to occupy the Principalities, if the Porte did not within a week comply with the demands of Russia.

The despatch to her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, authorising him in certain specified contingencies to send for the British fleet, was dated the 31st May, and the order sent direct from England to her Majesty's Admiral to proceed to the neighbourhood of the Dardanelles was dated the 2nd of June.

The determination to occupy the Principalities was therefore taken before the orders for the advance of the combined squadrons were given.

The Sultan's Minister was informed that unless he signed within a week, and without the change of a word, the note proposed to the Porte by Prince Menchikoff, on the eve of his departure from Constantinople, the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia would be occupied by Russian troops. The Sultan could not accede to so insulting a demand; but when the actual occupation of the Principalities took place, the Sultan did not, as he might have done in the exercise of his undoubted right, declare war, but addressed a protest to his allies.

Her Majesty, in conjunction with the Sovereigns of Austria, France, and Prussia, has made various attempts to meet any just demands of the Emperor of Russia without affecting the dignity and independence of the Sultan; and had it been the sole object of Russia to obtain security for the enjoyment by the Christian subjects of the Porte of their privileges and immunities, she would have found it in the offers that have been made by the Sultan; but as that security was not offered in the shape of a special and separate stipulation with Russia, it was rejected. Twice has this offer been made by the Sultan, and recommended by the Four Powers—once by a note originally prepared at Vienna, and subsequently modified by the Porte, once by the proposal of bases of negotiation agreed upon at Constantinople on the 31st of December, and approved at Vienna on the 31st of January, as offering to the two parties the means of arriving at an understanding in a becoming and honourable manner.

It is thus manifest that a right for Russia to interfere in the ordinary relations of Turkish subjects to their Sovereign, and not the happiness of Christian communities in Turkey, was the object sought for by the Russian Government; to such a demand the Sultan would not submit, and his Highness, in self-defence, declared war upon Russia, but her Majesty, nevertheless, in conjunction with her allies, has not ceased her endeavours to restore peace between the contending parties.

The time has, however, now arrived when the advice and remonstrances of the Four Powers having proved wholly ineffectual, and the military preparations of Russia becoming daily more extended, it is but too obvious that the Emperor of Russia has entered upon a course of policy which, if unchecked, must lead to the destruction of the Ottoman Empire.

In this conjuncture her Majesty feels called upon by regard for an ally, the integrity and independence of whose empire have been recognised as essential to the peace of Europe, by the sympathies of her people with right against wrong, by a desire to avert from her dominions most injurious consequences, and save Europe from the preponderance of a power which has violated the faith of treaties, and defies the opinion of the civilised world, to take up arms in conjunction with the Emperor of the French for the defence of the Sultan.

Her Majesty is persuaded that in so acting she will have the cordial support of her people; and that the pretext of zeal for the Christian religion will be used in vain to cover an aggression undertaken in disregard of its holy precepts, and of its pure and beneficent spirit.

Her Majesty humbly trusts that her efforts may be successful, and that, by the blessing of Providence, peace may be re-established on safe and solid foundations.

Westminster, March 28, 1854.

A subsequent declaration has reference to neutral states:

It is impossible for her Majesty to forego the exercise of her right of seizing articles contraband of war, and of preventing neutrals from bearing the enemy's despatches, and she must maintain the right of a belligerent to prevent neutrals from breaking an effective blockade which may be established with an adequate force against the enemy's forts, harbours, or coasts.

But her Majesty will waive the right of seizing the enemy's property laden on board a neutral vessel, unless it be contraband of war.

It is not her Majesty's intention to claim the confiscation of neutral property, not being contraband of war, found on board enemy's ships; and her Majesty further declares, that being anxious to lessen as much as possible the evils of war, and to restrict its operations to the regularly organised forces of the country, it is not her present intention to issue letters of marque for the commissioning of privateers.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords sat but a short time last night and no business of importance was transacted.

In the House of Commons Mr. H. HARRERT moved that an address should be presented to the Crown, praying that effect should be given to a recommendation contained in a report from the select committee on the postal communication with Dublin, so as to establish a class of steamers affording better accommodation for passengers, combined with higher capabilities as regards the speed of transit. After considerable discussion the motion was rejected by 208 to 152 votes.

THE CONVENTUAL COMMITTEE.

The nomination of the Committee of Inquiry on Conventual and Monastic Institutions having been made, Mr. BOWYER moved, as an amendment, that the order should be discharged.

Lord J. RUSSELL doubted whether any sufficient cause had been shown for the appointment of the committee. Such a machinery should not be set in motion merely upon vague suppositions. But at present vagueness prevailed on every point. The evils it was sought to suppress were vague, the mode in which the inquiry should be prosecuted was vague, and the remedy that could be provided was vague. As for the secondary object of the committee—the discovery, namely, of some means to bring monastic institutions within the scope of our legislation—he objected to any endeavour in that direction. The alternative from that proceeding must be to suppress monasteries or to legalize them.

Colonel NORTH, Mr. DRUMMOND, Mr. CROSSLEY, Mr. NEWDEGATE, and Mr. SPOONER supported the appointment of the committee.—Captain BELLEW and Mr. FORTESCUE opposed it.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS reminded the House that the appointment of the committee had been once voted after a long debate, and by a large majority. The proposal to rescind that vote he characterised as altogether unprecedented, and recapitulated some of the arguments by which he had originally supported his motion.

Some further considerable discussion ensued. Mr. B. OSBORNE made a brief speech in support of the amendment, which he advocated in the name of expediency as well as from a sense of justice. The hon. member amused the House by citing instances of the devices with which, he contended, sectarian animosities were kept alive in England.

The adjournment of the debate was moved by Mr. OSBORNE and negatived by 233 to 91—142.

Mr. MOORE moved the adjournment of the House, which was again negatived, the ayes being 69 and the noes 223—164.

The House afterwards divided on the amendment discharging the order for the appointment of the committee. There appeared—For the amendment, 120; against, 177—57. The original motion then remained untouched, but the nomination of the committee was postponed to Thursday next.

The House adjourned at five minutes past one o'clock.

PASSAGE OF THE DANUBE.—RUSSIAN
DISASTER.

"A letter from Belgrade, dated March 27, and published in the *Moniteur*, says:—"On the 15th of March General Gortschakoff endeavoured to take possession of an island on the Danube situate opposite to Turtukai. His troops already occupied a bridge which they had just built, when the fire of the Turks destroyed the bridge, which was carried away by the current, with all who were upon it. The loss of the Russians is estimated at 2,000 killed, either on the bridge or the banks. The Turks, who were sheltered by their intrenchments, scarcely suffered any loss."

Accounts from Vienna of the 27th of March, state that on the 23rd, 18,000 Russians crossed the Danube from Brailow to Matschin, and occupied Gedahid. General Luders had left Galatz, and had marched to the spot to protect the operation. It is stated that the Turkish general is fully prepared for this event. Matschin itself is an inconsiderable fortress, but considerable fieldworks have been thrown up by the Turkish engineers—an ambuscade has been prepared; and, if it were possible to force the entrance of the river at any of its mouths, this contracted theatre of operations is not inaccessible to our own naval forces.

The entire Baltic fleet was off Kiel yesterday, and was to put to sea to-day. The Danish Diet closed on the 24th.

It is announced that letters of marque will not be delivered by the United States.

The Duke of Portland, father of the late Lord George Bentinck, died yesterday, in the 85th year of his age.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. W. Drake." We have received his letter, and beg to inform him in reply that although unable personally to take in hand the matter on which he writes, we shall be happy to use our influence to get it attended to by some one more likely to move with success.

"J. W. O'Ferrall." We have sent his note to Mr. Fagan.

"A. Student." We really cannot open our columns to discuss the fairness of our contemporaries.

"J. Wood." The petitions had better be sent to your own member.

"C. Williams" and "Thos. Clarke." We should gladly have inserted their letters, but want of space forbids.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1854.

SUMMARY.

THE simultaneous announcement in the Parliament of England and the Legislature of France, that the efforts of diplomacy have ceased, and that the two Western Powers are at war with Russia, inaugurates a new era in the history of Europe, the complexion of which is shrouded in the obscurity of the future. We will not attempt to lift the veil that mercifully conceals coming events; but rather deal with the facts actually before us. Virtually, if not nominally, we are now for the first time, during the last forty years, at war with a European Power. According to modern practice, the public announcement, through the Legislature and official organs, of the suspension of pacific relations, is the declaration of war, and needs the delivery of no formal message to the enemy. That declaration appears elsewhere, and sets forth, with becoming dignity and distinctness, the leading events that have led to the rupture with Russia. "In this conjuncture," says this important State document, "Her Majesty feels called upon, by regard for an ally, the integrity and independence of whose empire have been recognised as essential to the peace of Europe, by the sympathies of her people with right against wrong, by a desire to avert from her dominions most injurious consequences, and to save Europe from the preponderance of a Power which has violated the faith of treaties, and defies the opinion of the civilized world, to take up arms, in conjunction with the Emperor of the French, for the defence of the Sultan."

At the Privy Council to-day it is understood that instructions will be issued to our naval forces to treat as enemies the ships and subjects of Russia, and all trade and intercourse between the two countries will become illegal. It appears that the French Government has thus early announced its intention to grant a delay of six weeks for Russian trading vessels to leave its ports, but that Russian subjects may remain in France so long as they respect the law. Our own Government will no doubt make a similar announcement,—in fact, it has already intimated to a deputation of Russian merchants that they will have liberty to remain in this country during the war. It will be seen also that the course usually pursued with respect to neutrals has been considerably modified. The right of seizing property on board neutral vessels, unless it be contraband of war, is waived, as is also that of confiscating neutral property on board the enemy's ships. Letters of marque are not to be issued "at present."

It is remarkable that the final rupture with Russia should have happened in the same week in which the extent of her turpitude had been fully exposed. The project for the partition of Turkey submitted to the English Government was, on its rejection, made to France with, of course, the needful variation in the bait held out. There is little doubt that the temptation thrown in the way of Louis Napoleon, by the assumed distributor of the soil of Europe, was the Rhine frontier. It would thus appear that Prussia has gained nothing by her subserviency to the Czar, but his connivance at schemes for mutilating her territory to gratify his own cupidity. The betrayal of one's friends is almost the last and the lowest act of the criminal rushing headlong to ruin; and, at a time when almost a stern necessity has united civilised Europe in sentiment if not in arms, against the Russian autocrat, the full extent of his ambition, arrogance, and faithfulness is made known to the world, and adds greatly to the moral strength of the coalition. There is now but one continental Power that indulges schemes of European aggrandisement, and that Power is at issue with the rest.

External events as bearing upon the present crisis are not without interest, though needing little comment. The British fleet has reached Kiel Bay, where it will no doubt receive, final orders. Rumour points to the occupation of the island of Aland as the first act of hostilities. The Czar has formally acknowledged the neutrality of Sweden and Denmark, and Prussia has shown that she is not so thoroughly Russianized as to refuse

the assistance of pilots to the combined squadron. The two great German Powers have entered into a treaty of offensive and defensive alliance—the terms of which are only matter of conjecture. Germany will, no doubt, for some time to come, simply maintain an expectant attitude. Intelligence from the banks of the Danube is more stirring. There is reason to believe that a Russian force of some 35,000 men has crossed the Danube from Brailow to Matschin, on the extreme right of the Turkish position. The Ottoman army had retired before them, and probably the Russians will be allowed to occupy the Dobrudscha, the tract of land lying between the Danube and the Black Sea, until the forces of the Sultan, assisted perhaps by the naval forces, can operate successfully against them. Under these circumstances it is not unlikely that the Anglo-French military contingent will land at Varna. Meanwhile the Turks have gained another signal advantage at the centre of their line of operations, with a loss of 2,000 to the enemy.

The Common Law Procedure Bill, and a measure for the transference of testamentary jurisdictions from the Ecclesiastical Courts—not to a Probate Court, as was proposed by the Commissioners, but—to the Court of Chancery, occupied the Lords last week. On Monday, the Bishop of London called attention to the working of the Act for the suppression of intramural interments; to which he attributes a two-fold evil—first, a woeful diminution of clerical incomes; and secondly, the aggravation, in another form, of dangers to the public health. The latter complaint certainly demands immediate attention—and should it be proved that delay in providing new burial grounds, or the increased cost of interment, leads to the frightful practice of detaining the dead in the crowded homes of the living, no remedial measure can be too prompt or vigorous.

Ministers were entertained, on Saturday evening, at a Mansion-house banquet. Lord John Russell, Lord Palmerston, and Sir James Graham sent excuses for non-attendance. The Earl of Aberdeen and Mr. Gladstone were, therefore, the chief speakers; and both insisted, amidst approving cheers, that a policy of peace should be the policy of a British Government even while prosecuting war. The absence of the livelier members of the Government was the more to be regretted, that their assumed unanimity would have so finely contrasted with their notorious dissensions.

The Committee of Inquiry into the allegations of Irish parliamentary corruption, has drawn down the indignation of a large portion of the press, by its persevering attempts to extract from Mr. Mowbray Morris, the *Times* "manager," the grounds on which that journal based the assertions which provoked this inquiry. It was certainly with admirable address that Mr. Morris defeated attempts which rarely fail—and there was dignity in the position which he ultimately took up. Nevertheless, it is not clear that the House of Commons has not the right to require the impugnors of its purity to produce their authority; and it would have shown, we think, a finer sense of public duty, had the *Times* manager, while asserting the independence of journalism of all but the law, have helped the Legislature to detect its suspected members.

We reported in our last the arrest of the Preston operatives' leaders upon a charge of conspiracy—but abstained from commenting upon the event, in unwillingness to believe that the prosecutors had acted only upon facts patent to all. But now that the examination of the defendants is concluded, and a true bill has been found against them by a Liverpool grand jury, we are at liberty to express our surprise and regret that the masters and magistrates should have taken this step. The evidence on which Cowell and his companions have been committed for trial, proves absolutely nothing beyond their resort, in concert, to practices in which the masters had preceded them—the use of persuasion, in confederation, and, by agents, to influence the price of labour in a certain district. Confidently anticipating that the judges will protect a right distinctly conceded by the Legislature, we cannot imagine in what respect the masters will have improved their position. And in the disastrous event of a conviction—upon the evidence in question—they will have obtained, at a heavy price to their country, only questionable advantages for themselves.

With a Declaration of War occupying the space of our usual Postscript, we need not hesitate to compress into one paragraph items of intelligence that might have received a paragraph apiece. First, then, and most welcome under these portentous conditions, is the announcement of unlooked-for bread supplies and falling prices. Secondly, the Emperor Napoleon is engaged in a conflict with his audacious critic and refractory senator, Count Montalembert—a contest in which the master of a nation of soldiers will very likely be worsted, as the Count is defended by the crosier as well as by his own iron pen. Thirdly, the reigning Duke of Parma has received a wound in the stomach from the knife of a would-be assassin, who has succeeded in escaping. The incident, as communicated by

telegraph, is mysterious—an example either of the private hate or fanatic vengeance by which despots, great and little, are ever dogged, and may be, at any moment, struck from their thrones.

NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

We were prevented on Wednesday last, partly by the extreme length of the debate of the preceding night, and partly by the excessive weariness it produced, from noticing, as we should otherwise have done, that for which the evening was chiefly memorable—the single combat between Disraeli and Gladstone on matters of finance. Our readers will remember the accidental falling through of the anticipated debate on Monday se'night, owing to the temporary absence of Sir H. Willoughby. The disappointment was only for that evening, since the forms of the House afforded the hon. baronet an opportunity the next evening, on the bringing up of the report of committee, of moving the amendment of which he had given notice. The bill in committee was for doubling the Income Tax for the next six months—the amendment was for spreading the tax over the whole year—the battle fought was merely one of oratory, for there was no division taken—none probably intended from the first. The debate was about as dry and uninviting, with very occasional exceptions, as lawyers, speaking on finance, could possibly make it—but it formed an excellent background for Disraeli's exhibition. If to be a great orator one must possess and exercise the power of swaying minds to worthy ends by the force of words, then Disraeli cannot claim to be classed in that category. He is ingenious, he is witty, he is pungent—he can make his words sting—he can level polished phrases at his opponent which carry with them not only barb but venom—he is not fluent, but he has wonderful mastery over language, especially when he uses it as an instrument of sarcasm—he has no fire in his soul, but he can assume a manner in which animation is carried to the very verge of excess. With great intellectual powers, with an air of self-possession which approaches the sublime of impudence, with considerable stores of information, and indefatigable industry, he seems to possess all the necessary qualifications of a first-rate orator, but *soul*. You hear him speak with much the same emotions as you would gaze upon a mask, perfect in its kind. You are pleased or startled, tickled or irritated—but with a consciousness of which you cannot get rid, that you have before you a semblance only, not a reality. You listen to him as you might do to Kean or Kemble, for entertaining, not for serious purposes. But he is beginning to fail even as an actor. His art becomes more obtrusive as his character becomes better known. His tricks are worn out by repetition. On Tuesday night he was an exaggeration of himself. There were in his long speech weary wastes of words where not a flower nor even a living weed relieved the insufferable monotony of dust, dust, dust—there were repetitions so often repeated that no one could acquit him of the intention of speaking against time—there were sudden thrusts at personal rivals or party foes which indicated a greater love of mischief than any deep-seated malice, and which were rather spiteful than vindictive—but above all, and through all, and governing all, there was an egotism, a spirit of self-display, a determination to do a thing to be talked of, that was inexpressibly irksome. We never saw the House so weary of him. His own side could not sit it out decently. Many were fast asleep, and not a few quietly slipped away. Sir John Pakington looked uncomfortable. Mr. Walpole was evidently scandalised. We do not know how the rhetorician would have contrived to keep along but for the penny-trumpet cheering of Mr. Packe. Oh, what a relief it was when Mr. Gladstone rose! when once again you could feel satisfied that you were listening to a man with a purpose and a heart. He was necessarily more rapid than usual—for it was half-past one in the morning when he commenced. He was less excited than he might have been; but he certainly contrived in less than an hour's speech to leave his adversary stripped of mask and finery—looking, on review, much as an actor might do, after leaving the stage and his heroics, and dropping suddenly down, with face yet unwashed and bonnet yet undoffed, to the vulgar business of our every day social life.

With jaded spirits, and some remains of fatigue, we resumed our place on Wednesday noon. Simony was the first public question of the day—the bill to prevent stoppages of wages of workmen engaged in the hosiery trade was the second. On the first topic we have spoken our thoughts elsewhere, and on the second we need only say that it is virtually a bill to increase the rate of wages. The two discussions were eminently unlike in character that of the preceding evening—they were short and lively—consisting in just that unstudied interchange of thought on matters of great practical interest, which give to the House of Commons the best reflection as a deliberative assembly.

Thursday was nearly a holiday—but on Friday the second reading of the Poor-law Settlement

and Removal Bill recalled the House to work in earnest. It came out just before the beginning of the debate, that Lord Palmerston had promised to a deputation of Irish members to make the Irish poor, as well as the English, irremovable—and great was the alarm and indignation excited on both sides by this unexpected discovery. Of course, it gave a tone to the whole debate, which was quite alien to the main question at issue—and by starting another subject, diverted discussion very much from the true point to be decided. Otherwise, the debate was a ponderous one—rendered almost unbearable towards its close by a most prolix speech from a Mr. Knight, who seemed to be reading extracts from a pamphlet in his hands, for nearly an hour and a half at a stretch—and reading them badly too. Monday witnessed a resumption of the adjourned discussion, but not for long. Members appeared to have grown more dissatisfied after an interval of reflection on the change intimated as adopted by the Government; and that dissatisfaction was increased when Mr. Baines, the President of the Poor-law Board, announced that the resolution respecting the Irish poor had been adopted without consulting him, and without his concurrence. A motion for adjournment to April 25 was submitted before seven o'clock, and carried against Ministers—a fitting rebuke of their vacillation.

But the brief continuation of the debate on the Settlement and Removal Bill was preceded by a solemn and momentous State ceremony. It had been intimated in the *Times* of the morning that her Majesty would send down a Message to both Houses of Parliament, announcing the termination of diplomatic relations with Russia, and appealing to the loyalty of her subjects. The House, therefore, was crowded at an early hour, and the discussion of two or three private bills was proceeded with in dumb show—such was the earnestness of general conversation. On a sudden the noise was hushed. Lord John Russell appeared at the bar, and, in answer to the call of the Speaker, announced a Message from her Majesty. Every hat was off in an instant, as the noble lord advanced to the table, and put a paper into the hands of the Speaker. The Speaker read in a sonorous voice the Message, which will be found elsewhere, and Lord John immediately afterwards rose to propose that it be taken into consideration on Friday. This was all that passed on the subject—there was no cheering—no expression of opinion—not a word uttered. The question was put and carried, and the debate, adjourned from Friday, was then resumed.

We have said that it closed abruptly, and immediately afterwards the ill-omened Ministers Money Bill went into committee. There it was stoutly discussed—no less than seven divisions, we believe, having been taken on its details. This done, another ecclesiastical discussion ensued on the Church Commissioners' Continuance Bill. Mr. Hadfield, who evinced rare courage and fidelity during the evening, lost his division, of course; but he succeeded in shaming Ministers into a proposal of two years instead of ten as the renewed term of the commission.

Last night the House was once more occupied on the question of Convents. We are unable to do more than point to the very telling speech of Mr. Bernal Osborne, and to say that the debate was of the usual character on such questions. Three divisions were taken—imprudently we think—two on adjournment, and one on the main question. A majority of fifty-seven declared against rescinding the resolution for the appointment of a committee, and the House adjourned at a quarter to one this morning.

THE WAR BEGAN—WHERE TO END?

THE solemn episode in the Parliamentary proceedings of Monday last, naturally turns back our thoughts upon the last occasion of a similar formality. It was—as every one will remember—on May the 16th, 1803, just fifty-one years ago, that a message from the Crown, announcing the rupture of European peace, was last received by the two Houses. Or, if this were not absolutely the latest incident of the kind—for we are unable, at the moment of writing, to certify that the war with Russia, in 1807, and with America, in 1812, were not so inaugurated—it was certainly the most conspicuous in the memory of this generation; and its circumstances are the most akin to those under which the long-dormant thunders of war are once more aroused.

But still more analogous and instructive were the conditions under which, in 1793, was commenced the conflict which was rather suspended than terminated by the Treaty of Amiens. Then, as now, England was the leader in a continental coalition. Then, as now, a short strife and an easy victory were confidently anticipated. Then, as now, the objects of the war were vaguely described to the country, and probably ill-defined in the minds of its rulers. Happily, we are not obliged to add—then, as now, the causes of the war lay only in the craven fears or worse resolves of the kings and statesmen of the coalition,

We believe—to pursue for a moment, this last of the several parallels—we believe *that* war to have been neither just nor necessary; while the justice of *this* war—the moral right of Europe to punish Russia, as a reckless disturber of its peace—no one can impugn. The very words—with the necessary change of pronouns—used in 1803, were repeated in the Message of Monday last:—"It is a consolation to his [her] Majesty to reflect that no endeavours have been wanting on his [her] part to preserve to his [her] subjects the blessings of peace." But none, entitled to an opinion, will deny that neither in 1793 nor in 1803 were these words of vindication from blood-guiltiness so honest as in 1854. The Ministers of George the Third rushed into war with an alacrity only too much shared by the nation, in whom neither the blessings of brief repose nor the burdens of severe conflict could subdue the excitement of struggle and the exultation of success. The Ministers of Victoria, on the contrary, have restrained till they could restrain no longer the spirit of her subjects—have certainly "exhausted the arts of diplomacy" before consenting to attempt the reconquest of peace—and even as they draw the sword, pronounce it an accursed weapon.

Their reluctance to engage in war admits of two interpretations, apart from the influence of humane sentiment. They may be either conscious of their inability to guide the storm, when once loosed—or they may be averse to the very object which they commission it to accomplish. Considering that war, like law, is a "glorious uncertainty,"—that it has usually either failed to attain its object, or has attained that object only after many vicissitudes;—considering, too, that untried resources will now be employed; new engines of slaughter be for the first time employed on a large scale—that it is on unfamiliar seas and against hitherto unassailed shores, that we have to operate;—considering, lastly, that all the powers of Europe have not yet taken side—and that Central Europe is more likely, after all, to throw in its weight with the East than with the West;—pondering these things, upon those heights of power where deliberation is heavy with tremendous issues,—the Queen's Ministers may well have hesitated to counsel her to speak the irrevocable word. But the country should not conceal from itself, that another motive has almost certainly operated to delay belligerent action—namely, a desire to avoid, at nearly any cost, unsettling the existing territorial arrangements of Europe; a dread of awaking Revolution in assailing Russia—of destroying Austria in defending Turkey. We have both deeds and words to authorise us in ascribing to the Government this feeling—the words of Aberdeen and the acts of Palmerston, the two discordant heads of the Administration—the statesmen who have wielded in turn, for thirty years past, the powers of the Foreign-office—powers that, were the people wise, would never again be entrusted to any one man. Even Lord John Russell, while repudiating the intention of bargaining Italian independence against the Austrian alliance, required of the Italian leaders quiescence in the hour of their opportunity—a requirement that has called down, we observe, an emphatic reply from the hero of republican Venice, and a rebuke, as just as it is eloquent, from Mazzini.

Now, we offer to our countrymen—in this truly critical hour, the gravity of which the exaggerations of rhetoric would only insult—we offer to them the consideration of this dilemma:—In the event of Prussia and Austria's siding with Russia, what are the chances of an early peace? in the opposite event, what are the chances of an honourable peace—that is, a peace to conquer which it will have been worth making war? Let it be observed that the grandest naval victories we can hope to achieve—a point on which hope should not be too sanguine—will not drive the Russian armies from the Principalities. Supposing the Emperor's fleets in either sea utterly demolished—supposing Cronstadt and Sebastopol dismantled—since we have no forces by which to lay hold of the capital, and the Emperor will not be found in the Crimea, we have but destroyed his means of transporting troops to Asia. There will still remain to him the enormous area over which he can draw down incessant rivers of armed men upon Turkey. Clearly, it is only by raising his discontented provinces—by inciting Scandinavians and Poles upon the one hand, Tartars and Georgians upon the other, to break his yoke—that we can so seriously cripple his power as to compel peace. But revolt is a weapon which, once unsheathed, would cleave to the centre our European system. Not only will not Prussia and Austria, if in alliance with us, permit its employment, obliging us to accept instead the direct and dilatory action of their legions upon Western Russia,—but when peace was to be made, they would certainly resist the erection of independent States upon the territories wrested from the Czar. Entering on war under these conditions, what right have we to reckon on concluding it before six months have run out, or more than six millions have been spent? What right to anticipate only the triumph of our arms and the punishment of our enemy? Should we not rather lay our account

with duties to be done at home, while our forces are fighting abroad, and burdens to be borne that will try our patience even more than our strength? Those burdens we need not, indeed, take upon us before the time—but the duty of which we speak is of to-day, and many days to come;—the twofold duty of faith in the Providence which may educe vast good to Europe from movements that designed no such result, and vigilant control of the men whose power is now "likest Heaven's," but whose thoughts seem still of earth.

THE TROUBLESOME CLASS.

"PAUPERISM is the leak in the vessel of State." So we wrote some three or four years since—and, though we have scarcely recurred, in that lapse of time, to the precise evil so emphatically characterised, our opinion thereupon is not less decided. The water admitted to the hold by this crevice—we went on to say—may be a few inches higher or lower *this* year than *that*; but it may also, some day, sink the ship. We think so still. Free-trade, good harvests, and emigration, have reduced the insidious flood to its minimum. We have been rejoicing, these several years past, over the virtual extinction of able-bodied pauperism. That the evil is at its lowest just now, is assigned as the reason for attempting further legislative mitigation. And instantly the attempt is made, the ungovernable nature of the mischief reveals itself.

The President of the Poor-law Board proposes—as our readers are already aware—to alter the law of settlement and removal. The existing law gives a destitute person no claim to permanent relief but in the parish where he or she has gained "a settlement," by birth, apprenticeship, or five years' residence. Destitution is in itself a title to relief. The houseless or the hungry may knock, at any time, at the door of the nearest relieving-officer, and claim at his hands food or shelter. But, if the person so relieved, have not a "settlement" in the parish where the relief is given, he is instantly liable to be deported to his own place—though it may be in the furthest corner of England or Wales, or even in Ireland, and though he may have been a vagrant ever since he could walk alone. For that single loaf of bread, that one night's shelter, he has sold his liberty of *travail* (a convenient synonyme for both labour and locomotion). If he venture forth again from the poor-house to which he has been consigned—though in quest of honest employment—and become chargeable a second time to a parish not his own, he is liable to be sent to gaol as "an idle and disorderly person," unless he produces a certificate of his settlement. How great a hardship this is to the unfortunate, need not be illustrated. Almost equally obvious is the injustice done to employers and rate-payers. Both these characters are sustained, for example, by a farmer or builder. He knows that in one capacity or the other he must help to maintain every destitute person who has a "settlement" in his parish. When the entire parish—as is not unfrequently the case—is in the occupancy or possession of one, two, or three men, they naturally endeavour to pay all their poor-rates in the form of wages, and too often thrust out all of whom nothing can be got. The worse labourer is actually preferred to the better labourer, lest the burden of idle maintenance should be incurred. The better labourer is discouraged from seeking work at a distance by the fear of being sent back as a vagrant pauper; and at the same time the employment he seeks is probably refused only that he may not gain a title to support when he is no longer of use. Thus the towns are continually replenished with superfluous labour, and burdened with the cost of casual relief; while the poor are carted about from town to town, spurned alike by the foot of *rus* and *ur*,—and the soil is impoverished for want of labour at one spot, while labour stagnates in another.

The system so evidently dictated by a rude selfishness, the Government have at length gained courage to reform. They propose to abolish altogether the power of removal, and to render taxation for poor relief more equitable by extending the area of assessment from parishes to unions. To these propositions the metropolitan parishes object, by the allegation of a special liability to be burthened by vagrant pauperism. Not alone does the ancient superstition which drew Dick Whittington to London streets, still prevail in rural parts,—but the systematic discouragement of rustic "adhesiveness" is alleged against landholders; an unfair, and often inhumane, exertion of influence or power to clear estates of superfluous labour. When it became known that Ireland was to share with England in the boon which this bill confers upon the labourer—that the Hibernian immigrants, who had reaped English fields or laboured at English house-building for many years, though seldom for many consecutive months in one place—when it was known that these Gibeonites of English industry were no longer to be liable to deportation when entitled to relief, the objection took additional

strength; for the invasions of London, Liverpool, Manchester, and other great towns, by Irish paupers, have contributed serious counterbalances to the cheap supply of labour they have afforded—and there is too much reason to believe that Irish landlords would not be slow in availing themselves of any increased facility for depopulating their estates. It was by a junction of opponents, influenced by quite opposite motives, therefore, that the Government project received the check of Monday night. And, probably, the alarm of English towns at the prospect of having fastened upon them the loads of Hibernian destitution they have been accustomed to pass on, may combine with Irish jealousy of even a temporary inequality of concession to the two countries, to drive over the subject for another session.

But let it not be supposed that with the enactment of a measure like this,—however skilfully adjusted, and however successful in operation—the great question of pauperism will be set at rest. That will never be till we make up our minds to extirpate the evil against which we now provide. Instead of seeking to ease, by diffusing, the burden of supporting the destitute, we should seek to put an end to the existence of that troublesome class—to make such a concession of the “rights of labour” as shall leave no middle state between the utterly disabled and the incorrigibly idle: the former to be treated with generous humanity, the latter with unyielding rigour. *Able-bodied pauperism* is a thing which civilized England should sternly refuse to know—innocent destitution, a thing over which Christian England should not huddle with the economists. The right to relief is, in truth and in law, a right to employment—the fundamental *droit du travail*. Until, in place of degrading labour-tests and absurd appliances, we provide field-plots and workshops for the idle hands of honest strength—asylums neither comfortless nor dishonourable for the crippled and the worn-out—we shall never get rid of that troublesome pauper class, which is continually degenerating into the dangerous criminal class;—never cease to be annoyed and embarrassed by the presence amongst us of that poverty which has little of virtue, and less of poetry, and which, therefore, cannot be the poverty which it is declared shall “never die out of the land.”

THE NEW SLAVERY STRUGGLE IN THE UNITED STATES.

ENGROSSED in the momentous issues of the coming European war, the British public have scarcely bestowed attention upon the great political struggle which has commenced on the other side of the Atlantic. It is deeply mortifying to think that there is only too much analogy in point of turpitude between the aggressions of the Czar and of the dominant power in the so-called Free States of America. While the Autocrat covets the territory of the Sultan, the slaveocracy of the United States, having filched a large extent of territory from the Indians, in defiance of a solemn compact assigning it to them as their “permanent home,” now propose to erect it into a new state, under the designation of Nebraska, and to permit the introduction of slavery.

The Nebraska territory is reported to be of immense extent—eight times as large as New England, and contiguous on its northern boundary to the British frontier. It contains at present only a few hundred whites, but as the great road to California passes through it, the population will no doubt rapidly increase. Being north of the latitude 30 deg. 30 min., slavery is excluded from the new territory by the Missouri Compromise of 1820. The slave party, however, now for the first time allege, though without any tangible reasons, that that act was superseded by the compromise measures of 1850, and with their accustomed audacity have introduced a bill into Congress, permitting the introduction of the “domestic institution” into the new state, or rather depriving the inhabitants of the legal power to expel it. The battle of slavery is once more being fought in the United States legislature. In this instance the South is the aggressor, and relies, probably with too much reason, upon the connivance or want of moral purpose of northern statesmen.

The bill, in spite of the vigorous opposition of Mr. Sumner, and the more timid protest of Mr. Everett, and after very exciting and protracted debating, has already passed the Senate by a majority of 37 to 14 votes, and now awaits the decision of the House of Representatives. Of its probable fate there we have no very definite information. Public opinion in the northern states is greatly agitated on the question. Petitions to Congress against the bill are pouring in, and its more sanguine opponents believe that it will be thrown out.

The very introduction of such a measure, and, still more, its adoption by the Senate, affords melancholy proof rather of the demoralized condition of the Free States than of the power of the South. It is scarcely credible that the millions of free Americans who have wept over the pages of Mrs. Stowe, will tamely submit to this daring act of

Southern aggression. To do so would be to abdicate that superiority which freedom, wealth, and numbers confers upon the North, and to recognize the slave-power as the arbiter of the destinies of the republic. With the passage of the Nebraska Bill, the North will become the vassal of the South.

The friends of emancipation in this country will watch the progress of this great struggle with intense interest. The introduction of so daring and illegal a scheme for the extension of slavery, justifies alike the fears and policy of abolitionists; and scatters to the winds the arguments of those who connive at slavery on the plea that it will disappear by being left to die out. The South has thrown down the gauntlet. It is for the North to pick it up, and declare that henceforth there must be no compromise, no connivance with the hateful institution. If anything could add to the deep disgust and indignation of the opponents of slavery throughout the world, it is the fact that the iniquitous measure is openly abetted by John Mitchel, and many of his servile countrymen settled in the United States. The “apostle of Irish freedom,” as he has been called, has become the unblushing ally of a rapacious and lawless slaveocracy. And unless the virtue and resolution of New England now make itself felt in Congress, British North America will be bordered along a lengthened frontier by a slave state.

THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH ULTIMATUM REJECTED.

It was announced in Friday's daily papers, by telegraph from Berlin, that Count Nesselrode had communicated to the English and French Consuls that the Emperor of Russia would give no answer at all to their joint summons to evacuate the Principalities. It appears that the reply was not given until the six days granted by the Western Powers had expired. On Saturday the Hon. Captain Blackwood, who was charged to deliver the British ultimatum to the Czar, arrived in London from St. Petersburg. Captain Blackwood reached St. Petersburg on the 13th and delivered his message, waited until the expiration of six days, and on the 19th begun his homeward journey, reaching London, as above stated, on Saturday night.

The *Moniteur* concludes an article on the secret correspondence between the Russian and English Governments, in the following terms:—“As to the Government of the Emperor Napoleon, there is only one observation to be made on the care with which Russia left aside in the plans of territorial re-arrangement, and that is, that Russia turned round towards it when she failed in London; and that it had, in its turn, to decline advances, more or less direct, which are not without analogy to those of which England had at first been the object.” The *Times* of Saturday, says:—“We may add to these facts, which are indistinctly stated by the organ of the French Government, that these propositions were not made by the Emperor Nicholas in person to the French Minister at his Court, as they had been made to Sir Hamilton Seymour, but that they were communicated in conversation by M. de Kisseleff, the Russian Minister in Paris, to the Emperor of the French, who received them with the caution which is a part of his character, and rejected them with a fidelity to the great interests of Europe and to the alliance of this country which does him high honour. This circumstance was all that could be desired to complete the case against the Emperor Nicholas, and to give the finishing stroke to the demonstration of his bad faith. Unless we are mistaken, it was not only the dismemberment of the Turkish empire that Russia pointed on that occasion; and we suspect that she included in her schemes the aggrandizement of France by the incorporation of some portion of that very kingdom which he had before passed over in contemptuous silence, but which has since distinguished itself as the last adherent of Russian policy beyond the Vistula.” In other words, Russia hinted at the extension of the French frontier to the Rhine.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

A telegraphic despatch from Nyborg, states that a division of the English fleet, numbering eighteen sail, passed the Great Belt on Saturday morning. A despatch from Kiel, dated the same day at noon, announces that six vessels of the fleet were in sight. The Danes were excessively pleased with Sir Charles Napier for taking off his hat on landing at the Custom-house stairs. Sir Charles paid a visit to Mr. Buchanan, our Minister, and then paid his respects to the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs. It is said that the King of Denmark refused to see the gallant Admiral, on a plea of ill-health, but, in reality, from an indisposition to offend the Russian party, which is rather strong here. It was thought probable that the admiral would prefer to station his fleet in the bay of Kjøge, near Copenhagen, where there is more room for the ships, and a better anchorage than at Kiel. The *Miranda* was still taking soundings in the Baltic.

The Prussian Government has given permission to sixty Prussian pilots to act on board the English squadron.

The first decided operation of the fleet will, it is thought, be the occupation of the great island of Åland, off which there is good holding ground, and tolerable shelter. The naval forces of the Allied Powers, once in possession of this important station, will effectually command the Gulfs of Bothnia and Finland.

THE BLACK SEA.

A despatch from Odessa, of the 5th, states that a division of the Russian fleet had just left Sebastopol with the object of provisioning and reinforcing the

Russian forts on the Circassian coast. Letters from Constantinople also state that, on the 13th, two steamers of the allied fleets had come in with information that the Russians were in the act of conveying 12,000 men to Redout Kale.

Letters from Constantinople, of the 13th, confirm the statement that the Russians have sunk sand bags in the mouths of the Danube. The *Sampson* and a French steamer are gone to the Circassian coast to sound the approaches to the Russian forts. The weather has been intensely cold lately, the thermometer standing below zero during the greater part of the twenty-four hours.

THE GERMAN POWERS.

On the 16th, couriers were sent off simultaneously from Paris and London, calling upon Austria to join England and France in carrying into execution against Russia the protocol agreed to some time ago by the representatives of the Four Powers, at Vienna. On Wednesday the French Government received despatches from Vienna, with the answer of the Austrian Government. It appears that the Austrian Government declares that it is ready to sign all the protocols which guarantee the independence and integrity of Turkey, but it refuses to accept any engagement binding itself to act; and reserves to itself full liberty to do whatever it may consider advisable in the interests of Germany. This is nearly the same answer as that of Prussia.

The draught of a treaty between Austria and Prussia was sent to Berlin on the 23rd, and on the 26th, Baron Hess left Vienna for Berlin. The ostensible object of this treaty is the maintenance of the neutrality of the two states and of Germany; but, in fact, the treaty is the instrument of an offensive and defensive alliance. The terms, however, are not definitively settled, but the *Austrian Correspondent*, in reference to this subject, says that there is no reason to doubt that a closer alliance, and a more perfect understanding, will be the result of the intercommunications of the two cabinets. It is said that Prussia has pledged herself to occupy Hungary, in case Austria should be obliged to send the army now concentrated there into the adjoining Turkish provinces or Italy. It is not stated what counterpledges Austria had given.

The Prussian Chamber has selected the Committee which is to report on the Loan Bill, chiefly from the anti-Russian party.

The Prussian Government is greatly alarmed at the popular demonstrations which are in course of organization in the north of Prussia, for the purpose of welcoming the English and French fleets on their arrival in the Baltic, and of forcing the Prussian Government to take part in the war against Russia.

THE NEW TURKISH FIRMAN.

Advices from Constantinople are to the 16th instant. The convention relative to the rights and privileges which the Sultan has engaged to confer on the Christians of his empire was not signed at that date. From this circumstance it has been inferred at Vienna that some serious and perhaps insurmountable difficulty has presented itself, arising from Ottoman exclusiveness. The Grand Mufti, supported by the ex-Seraskier and the Ulemas, has raised difficulties respecting his “fetwah,” without which the firman in favour of the Christians cannot be issued. There have been numerous Conferences, at which the Sultan and the Grand Mufti were present, but in consequence of the scruples of the latter, hitherto without result. The Sultan went himself to request it, but without success. Mahomet Pacha is intriguing against the military, and sides with the Mufti. On the other hand it is said, that as the reforms contemplated by the Sultan involve a complete reconstruction of the civil and administrative institutions of the empire and the preparation of a new code, it is not, therefore, astonishing that there should be some delay.

The treaty of the triple alliance between France, England, and Turkey, was signed on the 12th at Constantinople.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS.

The following statistics are not without interest at the present time:—The entire marine of Russia is collected at two stations, those of the Baltic and of the Black Sea. Of these, that of the Baltic Sea is divided into three sections, and that of the Black Sea into two. But this does not include the various gunboats and small craft. Each division of the fleet consists usually of one three-decker, eight two-deckers, six frigates, one corvette, and five smaller vessels. Thus the Baltic fleet would number twenty-seven vessels of the line, including three three-deckers, eighteen frigates, and fifteen corvettes, brigs, and smaller vessels, besides a considerable number of steamers. That of the Black Sea, on the other hand, will amount to eighteen vessels of the line, and among them three three-deckers, besides twelve frigates, ten corvettes, and several steamers. Hence the Russian marine amounts in all to forty-five vessels of the line, thirty frigates, five corvettes, and twenty brigs, besides the very considerable force of steamers and gunboats, which the Russian inspiration places at 400 or 500 vessels. The aggregate of the Russian crews is given at 50,600 men, of whom 30,800 belong to the Baltic, and 19,800 to the Black Sea fleet. The corps of guards and grenadiers—comprising 73,000 elite infantry, 19,000 cavalry, 6,000 artillery, and 4,000 sappers, making a general total of 104,000 in round numbers—are destined to garrison the strongholds from Abo, in Finland, to the Gulf of Livonia. These will be supported by the special Finland corps of 14,000 men, and by the numerous veteran and garrison battalions called “Inward Guard,” of which there are about six battalions of 1,000 men each in the districts from St. Petersburg to Riga inclusive; so that at the smallest computation the effective force disposable between Abo and Riga amounts to 120,000 men, with 260 field-pieces.” It is probable that these statements are considerably exaggerated. The difficulty of bringing the Czar's paper forces into the field is now well understood.

In the Gulf of Finland—where it is known that if line-of-battle ships can enter they have barely water enough to navigate—a great number of large blocks of stone have been transported on the ice; so that when the weather becomes milder, and the ice melts, these blocks will sink to the bottom, and impede the navigation to such an extent as to render it almost impassable, except for the Russians, who will be aware of the places where they have let these blocks down. The inhabitants of the towns along the coast were withdrawing to the interior. At St. Petersburg, where great enthusiasm was displayed, the inhabitants narrated, with great delight, the following phrase, as having been uttered by the Czar in his last interview with the French and English ambassadors:—"It is, then, war that is wanted. Well, they shall have it. I will begin it with a million of soldiers; I will have two, if I am only forced a little; and three if driven to any extremity!"

PREPARATIONS AT HOME.

The names of the staff-officers of the troops which have been sent to Turkey have been published in full. The force of the expeditionary army will be twenty-two battalions of the line, and three of Foot Guards, in all, twenty-five battalions; which, with the artillery and the cavalry, will make up an effective force of at least 25,000 men. It was finally decided on Saturday, to send the entire cavalry force destined for the East, through France, embarking it on the Mediterranean at Marseilles. No other portion of the British contingent proceeds by that route.

The Twentieth, Twenty-first, Thirty-fourth, Sixty-third, and Ninety-seventh regiments, have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for "a special service;" but whether that implies that they are to be placed with the rest of the British contingent under Lord Ragland's command, and to act in the East, is not known.

A Treasury minute has been issued directing the Commissariat department to furnish supplies, charging the nearest wholesale cost without payment of duty, and excluding inconvenient fractions. The following statement shows the supplies provided, the cost price, and the rate of proposed charge:—

Articles.	Quantities provided.	Cost Price.	Proposed Charge to Troops.
Porter	64,800 gals.	35s. per bar. of 36 gals.	3d. per qt.
Pale ale (for the officers)	2,700	40s. per ditto	4d.
Preserved potatoes	50,000 lbs.	5d. per lb.	5d. per lb.
Chocolate	10,300	£1 16s. per cwt.	4d.
Coffee	80,000	£61 10s. per ton	6½d.
Tea	8,000	1s. per lb.	1s.
Sugar	100,000	£1 1s. 6d. per cwt.	2d.
Rice	200,000	£26 10s. per ton.	3d.
Scotch barley for broth	10,000	14s. 6d. per cwt.	1½d.

The *Cæsar*, 91, screw, Captain Robb, sailed from Portsmouth for the Baltic on Saturday. Her crew was completed by a draught of about 80 from the number (215) of Coastguard men and others brought by the steam-frigate *Magicienne*, 16, Captain Fisher, from the north of Ireland. It is expected the complement of the *St. George*, 120, at Spithead, will also be materially increased by the men thus brought, and that she will be the next ship to leave for the Baltic. Men being so scarce, a number of vessels have been ordered home from foreign stations.

Captain Hall, late of the *Nemesis*, is to leave in a day or two for the Baltic, in command of the *Hecla*, 6, paddle-wheel steam-sloop. On his application to the Admiralty, Sir James Graham is said to have expressed his regret that he had not a ship suitable to his rank and abilities to offer him, when the *Hecla* came into his recollection at the moment, and he said, "By the way, there's the *Hecla*; would you take her?" "I'll take a launch, Sir James, if you will commission her," was the prompt and gallant reply.

The *Austerlitz*, 100 guns, and the *Conflict*, both screws, passed Dover under steam and sail, about noon on Sunday, on their way to join the fleet in the Baltic. The *Austerlitz* saluted the port as she passed, but considerable delay occurred before the compliment was returned.

The new arrangements for engaging seamen for one year only appear to be well received by seafaring people. The naval rendezvous at Tower-hill was besieged on Wednesday by volunteers. Large numbers of men from the crews of merchant-ships recently arrived in the river, and paid, have volunteered. Similar success has hitherto attended the measure at the great naval stations.

On Saturday the officers of Customs seized a vessel in the Thames, laden with saltpetre and sulphur, consigned to a Russian port. It is understood that the Government intend to enforce the penalties against the shippers.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Swedish Diet has been officially informed that the Emperor of Russia has recognised the neutrality of Sweden and Norway. He is said to have expressed his hope that "the neutrality of Sweden may tend to its advantage," a form of expression which is considered in Stockholm as an indirect threat.

Advices from Bucharest, dated March 10th, state that Prince Gortschakoff will transfer his head-quarters to Braila on the arrival of the Prince of Warsaw, and General Luders removes his to Ismail. A new disposition of troops is apparent, and concentration appears to be the rule. On the road from Giurgevo to Bucharest various kinds of defensive works have been constructed. The large corps in motion are at present mainly directed upon Galatz and Braila.

According to a Hamburg paper, the Russian Government purposes publishing various documents on the Eastern question. "Among the documents destined for publication are some letters written by Prince Albert."

The *Augsburg Gazette*, of the 23rd, says that Servia

and Montenegro have made a treaty with Austria to remain neutral, Austria engaging to support their neutrality by arms if necessary.

Accounts from Odessa, of the 5th instant, mention the arrival of Prince Woronzow at Sebastopol, for the purpose of inspecting the fortifications of the place.

The Belgian Government has called the attention of the armoured of Liege to the serious consequences that might result to them if, in the present circumstances, they sold arms to Russia, as it was not doubtful that England and France, either by their cruisers or other means, would intercept them on the way. They would expose themselves to the same danger if they attempted to send arms to the Greek insurgents, the transit of weapons of war through Germany being prohibited.

RECENT WORKS ON THE EAST.

The publishers still continue to feed the universal interest in the countries and peoples of Eastern Europe with books, new and old, original and translated. One of these, "Russia Self-Condemed," we briefly described and commended last week, in a note to a leading article. Another of Mr. Bogue's publications, "The Knout and the Russians," is attracting as much more attention than Mr. Morell's volume, as it is more interesting, though it cannot be more important. It is the work of a French writer, M. Germain de Lagny, and is quite in the French style; so picturesque and epigrammatic, that an English reader naturally suspects the sacrifice of truth to effect. Nevertheless, we have as yet seen no disproof of any of M. De Lagny's statements, and his book contains internal evidence of an impartial disposition. In writing such a passage as the following, he did not, probably, anticipate the demand of unvarying literal truth:—

The laws are less to be feared than the police, which inspires such terror, that every one shrinks, as he would from a pestilence, from receiving or assisting anybody who is wounded, ill, or struck with apoplexy. The dying person whose head is resting on the threshold of a barber's or apothecary's shop, may require only to be bled, or to have a glass of water given him, in order to be saved; but the barber who can bleed him, and the apothecary who can staunch his blood, barricade themselves in their houses. All the people in the neighbourhood shut their doors; the place around the dying wretch is deserted, as if infected with the plague; and the surgeons take to flight. No one dares to run for help, or to assist the unhappy being who is lying in the agonies of death; the law expressly prohibits such a thing before the agents of justice have come and drawn up an official report of the accident.

But in such passages as those which describe the punishment of the knout or of the rods—pictures of scenes too sickening for transcription—he has evidently intended to be exact; and his estimate of Russia's military and naval resources are balanced by the deduction of manual from numerical forces. Thus, after casting up the different divisions of the army to a total of nearly 1,500,000 men in active or quasi-active service, of which more than 150,000 are cavalry—adding, "These numbers will strike the reader as fabulous, but they are incontestably correct"—he proceeds to make an immense reduction from the idea which those figures would actually convey. The system of recruiting, he shows, confines military service to the helpless and the vagabond—the serfs and the criminals; and in these masses, he says, the Emperor has striven in vain to excite the true military spirit: obedience is their only virtue. So as to the navy. With fleets mounting in all more than 9,000 guns—

The navy is incapable of action; it does not alarm us; it merely makes an impression on our imagination.

The truth is, that Russia wants the first, and indeed the only, vital element for a navy—seamen. The reason of this is simple enough; she possesses no merchant navy.

The population of Finland, Courland, Livonia, and Esthonia, does not amount to more than a million and a half of inhabitants. That of the Black Sea provinces does not exceed five hundred thousand. It is, therefore, only from this limited number, most of whom, too, devote themselves to agriculture, that Russia can raise her levies. Even those who are sailors are engaged in the coasting trade, which they follow in the day time alone, sheltering themselves at night behind the girdle of islands and cyots which line all the Russian coast.

To man its ships, the Russian Government is obliged to fall back on the inhabitants of the interior of the country. In this way it has, up to the present time, formed an army of sailors, who are frightened at the sea, which the majority of them never saw before. The levies for the navy, like those for the army, are composed of the strangest and most heterogeneous elements; and it is, therefore, a very difficult task to prepare them for the rough calling for which they are intended.

Again, it is not on board a number of pontoons, imprisoned in the ice or laid up in dock for the greater part of the year, that sailors are formed, or crews receive the practical instruction which it is necessary for them to acquire. Every year the Baltic is blocked up by the ice from the month of October to the end of April at least, and even the Black Sea is not always free from a similar state of things; while, during the summer, the navigation of both seas is so dangerous and difficult, that there is a ukase punishing with degradation and death every officer who has not returned with his vessel before the equinoxes, or who happens to lose it from stress of weather. In addition to all these considerations, good sailors are formed only by long voyages; and, I repeat, the Russians of the Black Sea, as well as those of the Baltic, are employed merely in the coasting trade.

It is all to no purpose that Russia prides herself on her special schools; up to the present day they have not produced anything very remarkable, or succeeded in forming a single naval officer. The young men who have been educated there have navigated the Neva for a few weeks only, and inspire no confidence. The Czar, who is always just and clear-sighted, has so plainly perceived the inaptitude of his people for maritime pursuits, that he has been under the necessity of confiding all the important posts to English and Swedish officers whom he has induced to enter his service.

With a nobility all foreign veneer or native brutality, a clergy equally degraded in mind and in estate, a magistracy and police utterly venal, there would seem to be nothing admirable in Russia but "the Emperor Nicholas and his family," of whom M. de Lagny treats in a very complimentary chapter. Not only are all the domestic virtues attributed to the Autocrat, but as a ruler he is represented as enlightened, just, and humane—as sobbing over corruption he cannot cure, and cruelties he cannot restrain. We read of perpetual conspiracies among the nobility, in contrast with instances of devotion among the peasantry. But we read, too,—“In 1846 or 1847, people were not told at the cost of how many tears, and how much anguish, the Czar obtained the forty or fifty millions of pounds sterling which he invested in the banks of England and France. He exported his corn at a time when a portion of his subjects were dying of starvation.” And yet—"If an instance of starvation ever reaches the ears of the Czar, woe betide the boyar." Nicholas, autocratic in everything, will suffer none but himself to murder.

A new edition of Admiral Slade's (*Muchava Pasha's*) work—"Records of Travels in Turkey, Greece, &c. and of a Cruise in the Black Sea with the Captain Pasha"—gives a reliable account of Sebastopol, which the author visited in the *Blonde*, under Sir Edmond Lyons. The visit of the *Blonde* to Sebastopol was quite unexpected, and our Pasha says:—

Verily, Norwegian fishermen, when they gazed on what they thought the demon ship, were not more astonished than was the Russian squadron in Sebastopol at the apparition of the *Blonde*. The outer ship bid us anchor and not pass her. We complied; next came an officer plumed and booted, and buttoned, alongside to know what was the ship, whence she came, what her cargo, with similar sapient questions, as though her ensign and pennant, with other obvious signs, were not admissible evidence of her nation and quality. He was answered in general terms, that the frigate being on cruise for the health of her crew, her captain did not deem it complimentary to the admiral to pass the port without entering. Our story he did not credit; the compliment involved a plot to him; and he considered it an absurd pretence—a frigate cruising in the Black Sea in the winter for the health of the crew, an exercise in his opinion (Russian as he was) well calculated to kill one half, and give the other half rheumatism. He arrived at the conclusion that she came for the purpose of surveying Sebastopol, and he thought to frustrate it by surrounding us with the barriers of quarantine. It was with difficulty that permission was granted us to row up the harbour, and then in a way that evinced distrust, for it specified that one boat only should go, with not more than two sitters in the stern sheets, and it should be accompanied by the admiral's aide-de-camp in another boat. This was mortifying, considering that no spying intention existed on our part—simply rational curiosity. However, we got over the difficulty about sitters, weathered the admiral and gratified ourselves, by dressing as Jacks, and taking the oars of the gig.

The great harbour is a fine sheet of water, three and a half miles by one, due east and west, with good bottom all over from twelve to four fathoms. The northern shore is broken into bays, separated by three abrupt points formed by loose stones, each fortified by batteries pointing seawards, respectively eighteen, twenty-one, and seven guns. A low beach confines it to the east, intersected by a rivulet, and backed by a range of high hills. On the southern shore are two creeks, which tend to render Sebastopol one of the finest harbours of the world. The inner creek penetrates considerably inland, by three-quarters of a mile wide, with depth for first rates. On one side of it is the dockyard, extensive but ill-supplied, from the system of speculation carried on by the naval officers.

It has no docks. The other creek, between it and the harbour's mouth, serves for the repairs of small craft. A small hill separates these creeks, on which the town is loosely scattered—a few good government houses, with green roofs, the remainder huts. At its sea-base are two lines of batteries, mounting thirty-four guns; near the small creek is another of seventeen guns; and on the rocky points forming the entrance, are also batteries of thirty-three and twenty-six guns—making, on the whole, two hundred and four pieces of cannon that could bear successively on ships entering Sebastopol. But when we saw them they were in a bad state, and chiefly mounted on *barbette*, which affords a poor chance against ships' broadsides.

The lapse of twenty years, and the apprehension of war, may have made a great change in the aspect of Sebastopol; but it seems to be in view of present requirements that the Pasha says, "when a British fleet is sent to attack Sebastopol, Captain Lyons, or any of the officers of the *Blonde*, will be found capable of leading it in." Sir Edmund Lyons is now on the spot, as second in command, and it is not improbable that this enterprise may be reserved for him.

He describes the Gulf of Bourgas, as—

A splendid thing in naval, military, and picturesque points of view. Twenty miles in depth east-north-east, west-south-west, with good anchorage all over, in not more than fourteen fathoms, it is overlooked by the Balkans, and bordered by a luxuriant country. Its northern

side presents three positions—Messambria, Abioul, Bourgas—capable of being rendered impregnable; its extremity is equivalent to a harbour, being protected by shoals from the reach of the sea; and on its southern shore are two excellent ports, Carnisavolovsky and Sizopolis.

Sebastopol is not to be compared with it. If the Porte were awake to its interest, it would make of it a great naval depot, protected by adequate works, in order that it might become in war time the rendezvous of the fleet. The fleet would then be in a most advantageously offensive attitude, with the power of acting with any wind. Whereas in the Bosphorus, its usual rendezvous, it may be, and often is, neutralised by the north-east wind three months together.

With such a harbour as this, and with Admiral Elade's opinion—

That the dangers ascribed to the Euxine are more imaginary than real; that its bad reputation is more owing to the ignorance of its ordinary navigators than to any peculiar malignity. Its fogs and currents are amply compensated by many good anchorages, and by there being few hidden dangers. After all, ten or fifteen is the amount of vessels lost in it on the average, in the course of the year; absolutely nothing, compared with the hundreds which annually strew the English coast—

The probability is increased, that the return of the fleets to the Bosphorus after a short cruise, was dictated rather by diplomatic than naval considerations.

Colonel Chesney, in his work, "The Russo-Turkish Campaigns of 1848 and 1849: with a view of the present state of affairs in the East," expresses a more diffident opinion of the accessibility of Sebastopol; and advises an attack by land rather than by sea. His book is chiefly valuable, however, as a testimony to the military strength of the Ottoman empire; as a history, it shows the enormous losses sustained by Russia in crossing the Danube and the Balkans—the desperate condition of her forces when the peace of Adrianople was hastily concluded—and the utterly disorganised condition of the people and armies by whom a resistance was protracted through two campaigns. As a view of present conditions, it shows a high state of preparedness on the part of the Turks—Varna alone being of three times the strength it was when it yielded to the Russians only after a desperate defence, and through the treachery of a commander.

Foreign and Colonial News.

FRANCE.

DECLARATION OF WAR WITH RUSSIA.

On Monday the Minister of State read to the Corps Legislatif, in the name of the Emperor, a message announcing that the final resolve of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg has placed Russia in a state of war as regards France. The Emperor also declares that the whole responsibility of this rupture rests on the Russian Government. The message was received with energetic expressions of adhesion by the whole Legislative body. M. Billault, the President, then went on to say that the Emperor relied on the support of the Legislative body, as well as on that of all France, under this grave aspect of affairs. This intimation was also received with loud cheers, and the Assembly broke up with shouts of "Vive l'Empereur." A similar communication was also made to the Senate, where it was received with the same enthusiasm.

The Minister of Commerce has informed the various Chambers of Commerce throughout France that letters of marque will not be granted to American vessels, and that the Federal Government had declared to the French Minister that acts so contrary to the rights of nations would not be tolerated in the territory of the Union.

It would be impossible (says the *Daily News* correspondent) to exaggerate the good effect produced by the publication of the secret Russian correspondence. Nothing has yet occurred tending so strongly to erase the word "Perfidie Albion" from the French vocabulary. I have heard people, whom I have known for years to entertain distrust and suspicion of England, and who, with reference to the Eastern question, have never been able to believe in the cordial alliance of England with France, frankly admit that Sir Hamilton Seymour's despatches have completely changed their opinions.

The Legislative body are deliberating as to whether they shall prosecute M. de Montalembert, for the publication of a letter to M. Dupin, in which he says, that Frenchmen are living under the *Bas Empire*, and that it is an atrocious insult to the Revolution of 1789 to speak of the present system as its consequence. The acts of the Government are denounced as spoliatory, revolutionary. Having mentioned the name of M. Troplong, and pointing also at M. Dupin himself, he asks, "Where can be found more cowardly adulators, or more complete valets, than the legists who justify the existing order of things?" M. Montalembert denies that he knew anything about the publication of the letter, which originally appeared in a Belgian paper. The Emperor desires the prosecution, the Chambers do not—at all events unanimously. The majority of the commission are opposed to recommending the House to authorize the prosecution of M. de Montalembert. M. Billault has intimated to the members individually, that Government is determined to carry its point, that M. de Montalembert and his salaries (80f. per day) shall be removed, and munificence of the Emperor; that anything like deliberate opposition to his will shall be punished, and that, if necessary, a dissolution will be effected. It is thought impossible to resist any more of this kind.

A circular publication, issuing from the Imperial

printing establishment, but suppressed before it came before the public, has attracted some attention. It is a pamphlet with the title "Revision de la Carte de l'Europe," proposing that Piedmont should have Lombardy—Austria, Servia and Moldavia—Turkey, the Crimea—Sweden, Finland—and Poland, reconstituted, to be placed under Prussian protection. The *Journal des Debats* and the *Siecle* had been authorised to publish it, but suddenly they received counter orders. Some copies, however, have reached the English journals. The following paragraph appears in the *Moniteur* relative to the pamphlet:—"A pamphlet containing ideas contrary to the policy of the Government has been published under the title of 'Revision de la Carte de l'Europe.' The circulation of this pamphlet was immediately prohibited. The Government, however, having learned that some copies escaped its surveillance, and were distributed, an *instruction* (inquiry with a view to criminal proceedings) has been ordered with reference to this publication."

It is said that the subscriptions to the National Loan reach the amount of 400,000,000f.

The prefect of the Aveyron has suspended the municipal council of Brice, and dismissed the assistant-mayor of the town, for having, without authority and in spite of the remonstrances of the mayor, assembled in an extraordinary meeting to deliberate on a question not legally before them, such conduct being "an act of opposition not to be tolerated by superior authority."

It is reported that a sum of 10,000,000f. has been advanced by the Emperor Napoleon to the Sultan to aid the public service until such time as the resources of the new loan are available.

ITALY.

The Piedmontese Parliament continues its labours in furtherance of Church reform. A measure for modifying the penal code was recently introduced. The second clause set forth that "all ministers of religion, who in the exercise of their ministry shall pronounce before a public assembly a discourse containing expressions exciting contempt of the statute, and of the organic laws of the State, shall be punished with imprisonment varying from three months to two years." The clause has been carried by 113 to 30; and the whole bill was adopted by 94 to 33. The importance of this decision is shown by the fact announced, that Ministers have decided shortly to introduce a bill for the suppression of all monastic orders not devoted to purposes of instruction or charity; which is, in fact, a part of that great scheme of Church reform, for which the country is most anxious, and to which the High Church party is violently opposed.

The following is an extract from the *Monthly Record* of the Society of the Friends of Italy on the present crisis:—

With feverish anxiety, Italy is watching the crisis. The war once fairly begun, Italy, it can hardly be doubted, will again rise, and assert her own claims to life. We commit no imprudence in saying this; we are not betraying secrets; we speak on rational grounds, open to all. There is so vast an amount of suffering going on in Italy, and so universal and powerful an aspiration towards a better state of things, that it would be very strange if Italy did not avail herself of the opportunity offered to her; strange if, when the Powers are going to war for Turkey's rights of independence, the Italian patriots should not likewise feel the moment come for re-asserting their own country's rights.

Should that event occur, what should be the thought and act of every Englishman? We have no hesitation in answering, sympathy and help.

There are politicians who give us a precisely contrary answer. Some, who were loud yesterday in proclaiming the indefeasible rights of Italy, who even found it impossible to understand how the Italian people could so long and patiently endure their yoke—these violently reprove to-day any thought of a national rising in Italy. They uphold the immoral atheistic language of the French Emperor. They are even ready to threaten repression from the allied Western Powers. Why? Because they believe that they may get Austria to side with them against Russia. Even as politicians, they are practically wrong. Austria is by necessity Russian. She is Russian, because her principle is the Russian one, despotism. She is Russian, because she cannot forbid Russia's interference with Turkey's internal concerns, whilst she must and will interfere with Roman, Tuscan, and Neapolitan concerns. She is Russian, because a compact has been recently signed in Olmutz, binding Austria to keep neutral as long as possible, and to unmask herself only in the event of the conquering Turkish army threatening to cross the Pruth, or of decisive Russian victories opening the way for a dismemberment of the Turkish empire. She is Russian, because the same dangers which would be threatened by hostilities of the Western Powers are impending on her from Russia, whilst, on the other side, England and France cannot, Russia alone can, assist her in crushing a Hungarian insurrectionary movement. She is Russian, because nearly the half of her subjects belong to the Slavonian stock, and could be easily subverted by Russian intrigues, gold, and tendencies. Austria will adopt the plan of an armed neutrality; she will avail herself of the first symptoms of agitation in Servia and in Bosnia for the purpose of invading those provinces. She will say that she is holding them for Turkey, and protecting them from the consequences of the Greek movement. Government may choose to call this an *alliance*: it is a subterfuge. An armed neutrality, supported by a large body of troops on the Transylvanian frontier, must keep in abeyance an equal number of Turkish forces, and divert them from the field of battle. Mark this, too: the two provinces which she is bent on occupying for Turkey, are really the two which, in case of a dismemberment, she would claim for herself.

The Naples correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 16th, says:—"All political parties in Italy are waiting anxiously the events in the East, but there is to be no false move made this time. The liberal party find themselves much stronger than they thought they were in every Italian State; the extreme republicans have toned down to constitutionalists; the red hot reactionists find the present despotism inconvenient and expensive, and wish for a change. I know not by what means the Italians communicate with each

other, for they have grown wise about secret societies, and no longer practise a system which formed data for the police. I believe the misgovernment of the despotic states has itself united the enemies of the existing system of rule. Be this as it may, the leading political men of 1848 know exactly on whom they can reckon in every town and village of Italy, and what, no doubt, is known to most of the despotic princes of Italy—not one sovereign can depend on the army for support, should outward events progress much further."

M. Manin, the ex-dictator of Venice, now residing at Paris in a very humble position, giving Italian lessons, has just written a letter respecting a passage in one of Lord John Russell's speeches. The noble lord had advised the Italians to remain quiet; by which means they would obtain more privileges from Austria than by an insurrection. Here are the last paragraphs of M. Manin's letter:—

We cannot accept the advice of remaining quiet, forasmuch as that is to counsel us to resign ourselves to foreign domination, and to be satisfied with the hope that it will be less barbarous and less heavy in future. No; we will not be resigned. For a nation under a foreign yoke, resignation is cowardice, and we will not be cowards. No; we will not be quiet, so long as we have not attained the end we have in view, so long as we shall not have obtained the independence and union of Italy. Let it be well understood, the Italian question is henceforward an European question of the first order; it must be solved in a way conformable to our indomitable aspirations after nationality. Until then, and whatever may be done, we shall continually agitate; there will always be in Italy a focus of disturbance, an occasion of war threatening to the repose of Europe, and allowing no dependence to be placed upon a durable peace."

The journals *La Verite*, *Le Journal des Faits*, *La Voie de la Verite*, and others, having published the letter of M. Manin, originally inserted in the *Presses*, have received warnings from the Minister of the Interior.

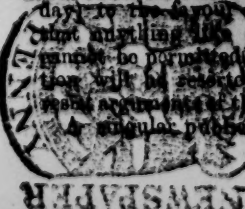
FRENCH REPORT ON THE CHINESE INSURGENTS.

The last intelligence from China mentioned that the French steamer, *Cassini*, had been at Nankin, and returned to Shanghai, in December last year. One of the visitors has written an interesting account of his observations, from which we give an extract, with the remark that his statements, considering they come from one whose sympathies are probably with the established regime, and unfavourable to any Protestant tendencies amongst the insurgents, must be received with some reservation. He says, respecting the inhabitants of Nankin:—"Hundreds were allowed to come on board in an orderly manner, the chiefs only being allowed to go off the mainmast. It was a curious crowd to see in China. Imagine a crowd of Chinese, with long hair, no pipes, and no hats, dressed, as if for a carnival, in silks and satins of the brightest hue. Such are the rebels; and one can judge that the stores of Nankin must have been well supplied to furnish such multitudes with such rich gowns and furs, distributed apparently indiscriminately. I have not been able to go on shore, but those who have been through Nankin say, that it presents a scene of ruin and desolation painful to witness, and it is true what has been said, that they have everything in common. One can see that the houses have no longer careful masters, for the doors and windows, which had been broken, I suppose, during the pillage of the place, are patched up with matting or with boards of any kind, merely to keep out the cold, which, by the way, is very severe here. Altogether this trip has been most interesting, with enough of danger and *inconnu* in it to make it piquant. The revolution is a stupendous affair, but, so far as I am able to judge, savours more of Mahomedanism than Christianity; in this sense—that it is the Tae-ping who is the Messiah of these fanatics, and it is in him they believe rather than in the crucified Saviour. They have no organised church or ministry, and their worship altogether seems composed of the repetition of certain prayers three times a day. When Tae-ping himself attends to his devotions, ten guns are fired each time to announce the great event to his enthusiastic followers. When his Excellency, M. Bourbillon, went on shore to have an interview with some of the authorities he was accompanied by Father Clavelin, who afterwards remained with them two days, and he was able thus to collect a great deal of information about them. He says they seem perfectly confident of their ultimate success, and speak of Heen-fung and all the Tartars as devils. One of the most curious facts he heard was, that in Nankin were assembled together all the women belonging to Tae-ping's followers, amounting to the immense and almost incredible number of 480,000; but when one considers what large and populous towns they have taken possession of in their progress to Nankin, and that these women are collected from all these places, the rebels fearing to leave their families behind them, the number is probably not much exaggerated. They are divided into brigades of 13,000 each, over which female authorities are placed, the least important having 100 under her command. These women bear the *baton* of office, in the shape of a flexible cane, tied together with red silk and forming a sort of switch, which doubtless comes into play pretty often. The chief of the brigade is applied to in case of need, and those holding authority have the privilege of corresponding directly with the princes in any question of moment. They have also female soldiers, and there are places where they have been left as the only garrison in towns of which the rebels have taken possession."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Prince Joachim Murat, son of the late King of Naples, was married on Wednesday to the Princess of Wagram, granddaughter of Marshal Berthier. The marriage was celebrated in the chapel of the Tuileries; the Emperor and Empress being present.

General Nordin, the Swedish Ambassador to St. Petersburg, has arrived in that city. The Swedes com-



plain that he has married a rich Russian lady, and cannot act independently.

Mr. Bell, the English engineer who was taken prisoner by the Russians while serving on board an Egyptian steamer in the Black Sea, has been released, and is now on his way to Vienna.

The young King of Portugal is expected shortly at Brussels. The object of the visit is said to be matrimonial.

The price of best flour in Paris fell last week no less than from 8 to 10 francs per sack.

They are preparing at Marseilles a grand *fete* for the Duke of Cambridge and Prince Napoleon.

A marble statue is to be erected to Lord Harris in the island of Trinidad.

The Legislative Council of New South Wales has voted a pension of £100 a-year to the widow of Captain Flinders, the Australian navigator, with reversion to her daughter.

The celebrated clipper ship *Marco Polo* has got ashore at Melbourne, and it is feared she will not be got off.

A despatch from Turin announces that the reigning Duke of Parma has been dangerously wounded in the abdomen by an assassin. His assailant has escaped.

Letters have been received from Dr. Barth, announcing his safe arrival at that celebrated city, Timbuctoo.

The total number of arrests in Paris last year was 19,782. Of the accused, 4,192 males and 454 females were under age; only nine had received a superior education.

The late Mr. Judah Tours, a citizen of New Orleans, has bequeathed a million and a half of dollars, and Mr. Elliott Cresson, of Philadelphia, has bequeathed 127,000 dollars, for charitable objects. Such "princely" bequests are not unfrequent with our Republican cousins.

A commencement of rice-cultivation in France has been made at Testa. The produce is said to be superior to that of India and Piedmont; while land is turned to account which was otherwise almost unproductive.

The Danish Chambers have been prorogued. It is believed that the King will not at present part with his advisers, notwithstanding the recent vote of the Diet.

The express in anticipation of the overland mail has arrived at Marseilles, with advices from Burmah to February 2nd, from Bombay to February 28th, from Hong Kong to February 11th, and from Adelaide to February 2nd. The pith of the intelligence is as follows:—Bassein, in Burmah, is in a disturbed state. Captain D'Orgoney, the French officer in the service of the King of Ava, is on his way to France. Shanghai is still in possession of the patriots, and the patriot army is wintering at Pech Liu, 100 miles from Peking. The returns from the gold fields in New South Wales are increasing, and a rich mine has been found at Tamarowra. Trade in Australia is improving, with a brisk demand for goods at Sydney. Price of gold at Sydney, £3 17s.; at Melbourne, £3 16s. per ounce.

A letter from Genoa, of the 20th, in the *Parlamento* of Turin, announces that the price of wheat has fallen considerably in that port, notwithstanding the Russian ukase forbidding the exportation of that grain. The same is the case in other Italian ports.

Advices from Malta to the 24th state that the *Kangaroo* had arrived, with the 77th Regiment, and the *Sincom*, with the Scotch Fusilier Guards. No preparations have been made for a move to the East. Yesterday, the French steamer *Christoph Colomb*, with the transport *Mistral*, arrived here, having on board Generals Canrobert, Boquet, and Martimprey, 72 officers, 800 men, and 70 horses belonging to the staff.

Field Marshal Radetsky has sent to Vienna a memorandum upon the present condition and distribution of the Austrian forces in Italy, intended to enforce his repeated, but disregarded, applications for reinforcements.

Baron Brunow has left Darmstadt to meet M. de Kiselef at Brussels.

Court, Personal, and Political News.

On Friday evening, the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Princess Alice, went to Exeter Hall to hear the performance of Mozart's "Requiem" by the Sacred Harmonic Society. They were very cordially received by a crowded audience, and by a crowd outside. The Duke and Duchess of Nemours visited the Queen on Saturday. Prince Albert rode on horseback, attended by Viscount Torrington, and visited the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. His Royal Highness spent some time in examining the works, which are now rapidly assuming a complete appearance, the greater number of the series of courts which are intended to illustrate the progress of architectural art being now in the hands of the artist decorators, and glowing in the most brilliant colours. From the architectural department the Prince proceeded to where, under the direction of Dr. Latham, the ethnological series, containing 150 specimens of the varieties of the human race, are being prepared. Prince Arthur and the Princesses Helena and Louisa visited the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park. The Queen had a dinner and evening party on Saturday, in honour of the birthday of the Duke of Cambridge.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign-office, Downing-street, on Saturday afternoon. The Ministers present were—the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir William Molesworth. The Council sat three hours. A Council was also held on Monday afternoon at the Foreign-office, which was attended by the whole

of Her Majesty's Ministers. The Council sat two hours.

Mr. R. B. Crowder, M.P., has received his appointment as successor to Mr. Justice Talfourd. Mr. Justice Coleridge is, it is stated, about to resign his seat on the bench.

The Hon. F. Calthorpe, son of Lord Calthorpe, is the candidate in the liberal interest, to succeed Lord Anson in the representation of Lichfield.

Mr. Shafto Adair has issued an address to the electors of Cambridge, declaring his readiness to appear before them as a candidate when a new writ is issued, should the Liberal electors unmistakably signify, by a requisition agreed to at a public meeting, their desire to honour him with their confidence. He states that he shall decline to connect himself politically with any candidate; that he shall dispense with a personal canvass, as being neither the most eligible nor dignified mode of communicating with a constituency; and that he will not pay any other than statutable and professional expenses.

Both candidates for the representation of Tynemouth, Mr. W. S. Lindsay and Mr. Dickson, have been pursuing an active canvass. Mr. Lindsay has addressed his committee. The election will be contested upon purely principals—no bands, no colours, no open public-houses. Both gentlemen are holding their committee meetings in private houses. The nomination day is fixed for Wednesday (this day).

The election for the county of Westmoreland is to be on Tuesday week. The Earl of Bective, who married Mr. Alderman Thompson's only child, is a candidate and there is no one else in the field at present. He is a Conservative, and states in his address that "the political principles which he shall advocate will be the same as those upheld by his lamented relative." Lord Bective is the eldest son of the Marquis Headford, who sits in the House of Lords as Baron Kenlis.

The Roman Catholics of London have begun to move respecting the proposed committee on nunneries. On Tuesday last week there was a numerous meeting of members of that persuasion at St Martin's Hall, the Hon. Charles Langdale in the chair, at which the following, amongst other persons of influence, were present:—The Earl of Kenmare, Lord Arundel of Wardour, Lord Petre, Lord Dorman, Lord Castlerosse, the Hon. Alfred Stourton, Lord Huntingtower, Hon. John Arundel, Sir E. Blount, Mr. Bowyer, M.P., Mr. O'Brien, M.P., Mr. J. F. Maguire, M.P., Lieut. Col. Vaughan, Capt. Bellew, M.P., Mr. Ball, M.P., Mr. Wegg-Prosser, M.P., Count Eyre, Sir T. Burke, Bart., M.P., Mr. John Esmonde, M.P., &c. It was agreed to petition Parliament to the effect, that they are cheerfully prepared to make all sacrifice and encounter all dangers in the service of their Queen and country; that thousands of them are actually in arms against a foreign foe; and that "it is most ungenerous, as well as most unwise, at such a time, to adopt any measures for fanning the flames of religious discord, and for impressing the minds of Catholics with the unalterable conviction, that their honour and the honour of their female relatives have been sacrificed by the Parliament of their country, out of an unworthy spirit of concession to an ignorant and fanatical faction." They consequently beg the House not to consent to the appointment of Mr. Chambers's Committee.

The *Times* understands that Her Majesty has signified her gracious intention to be present at the opening of the Crystal Palace, which, as at present contemplated, will take place on or about the 24th of May. Some interruption to the works in the Fine Arts department has been caused by a strike of the workmen not yet arranged.

It is stated that Mr. Gladstone has made an arrangement for "floating" all his new Exchequer Bills on very advantageous terms.

A few evenings since a public meeting was held in the parish of St Luke's, Chelsea, at which Mr. Hall, Mr. T. McCulloch, and others were present. Resolutions were adopted approving of Lord John Russell's bill, and expressing gratitude for the recognition of the claims of Chelsea to representation in Parliament.

Under the presidency of the mayor, the inhabitants of Oldham met on Wednesday night and adopted resolutions, urging upon Parliament not to make peace with Russia without exacting such material guarantees as will interpose an effectual barrier to any future aggressions which may be attempted.

General Garibaldi, the eminent Italian patriot, arrived last week in the Tyne in charge of a handsome full-rigged clipper ship. She is named the *Commonwealth*, and belongs to American owners. The admirers of the Italian republican intended to pay some public mark of respect to so illustrious a representative of their opinions, but, with the modesty peculiar to his disposition, Garibaldi preferred to appear in the Tyne simply as the master of an American merchant vessel. In reply to a deputation from the working men of Shields, he said that the simple expression of their good-will was as gratifying to him as the presentation of any address, even if it were enrolled in vellum. Garibaldi proceeds to Genoa, his birth-place, and the scene of some of his exploits during the revolution. He will appear there as an American citizen, and under the protection of the American flag.

Assize and Police.

Three more convictions of murder have taken place at the assizes during the last week, and in all cases, the crime was as unprovoked as it was barbarously perpetrated.

At Norwich, the young man Thompson has been found guilty of the murder of Lorenzo Beha, the German jeweller; who was waylaid at noon-day, between Wellingham and Tittleshall, struck down with a woodman's hatchet, dragged through a hedge, and robbed of his money. There was nothing to show

that the prisoner had any greater cause of enmity against his victim than being indebted to him a few pounds for a watch. A few days after he had been committed to Norwich Castle, he sent for the governor, and made a long rambling statement to the effect that as he was walking along he saw a large pool of blood by the side of the road, and observed the track of it to the fence, where something had been dragged through. He looked over into the ditch, and saw a man standing over the body. He was the same man he had seen in the plantation just before. His hands were wet and daubed with blood. He said he would go and tell somebody, and the man caught hold of his trousers and daubed his legs, and swore that he would chop him down if he said anything about it. He told him that he would not. The man then took out the deceased's purse and gave it to him, and told him to go.—The Chief Baron passed sentence of death with much earnestness and solemnity. The prisoner throughout the proceedings maintained a steady and attentive demeanour, which betrayed no trace of feeling.

On the Oxford Circuit, John Lloyd, labourer, aged 27, was indicted for killing, by wilfully shooting through the head, John Gittins, another labourer, with whom he had lodged up to within a month of the murder. The prisoner had left Gittins's house at his wife's desire, on being taunted—not angrily it would seem—with her new-born baby being his child. It was between five and six in the morning, and as Gittins was getting breakfast, that the shots were fired, of which he died. The jury found a verdict of Guilty after an hour's consideration, and the Judge gave no hope of a mitigation of the sentence.

On the Western Circuit, James Holman, aged 31, was indicted for the murder of his wife Philippa, at Crowan, in Cornwall. An aggravated feature in this case was that two lives had been destroyed, the deceased being pregnant at the time of her death. On the afternoon of the 26th of December the deceased was last seen alive and apparently in good health. About nine o'clock, two sons of a Mr. Roberts met the prisoner going to their father's house, and they returned with him. Mr. Roberts had retired to bed, but the prisoner gave an alarm, saying his wife was dead, having been murdered. Roberts immediately got out of bed, and with his son-in-law, named Williams, went with the prisoner to his house. Deceased was lying with her head in the chimney among the ashes, with a lighted candle by her side stuck into the ashes. There was blood about the chimney and some screens near to it. Williams and Roberts then carried the body up-stairs between them, in doing which they discovered several wounds about the head and face, and the skull was broken in. The prisoner had suggested that it was probable his wife had fallen into the fire-place in a fit, but the surgeons had stated that it was impossible such wounds would be inflicted by a fall. There could scarcely be the slightest doubt that she was murdered. The prisoner had in many ways tended to strengthen the suspicion against him. He had, previous to this circumstance, often stated to the deceased's family that his wife would not live long, and had proposed marriage to her sister. Prisoner had also stated two different periods of time at which he returned home on the evening of his wife's death. There was also a good deal of blood about his person, which he explains by saying that he raised her up. There was a well of water in the yard where the prisoner lived, and for several days he prevented persons from going to the well, but on some one insisting to go, he found a hatchet in it, such as was likely to have caused the murder. On Sunday night the prisoner appeared in a great state of excitement, saying he had seen a vision and flashing swords, and other expressions very striking, and on the Monday morning he stated to two persons, Messrs. Bezan and Simmons, that he had been the cause of his wife's death, which he said was occasioned by a push to which he was provoked by his wife being intoxicated, and in consequence of which she had fallen into the ashes and got killed, and, observing the hatchet with blood upon it, thinking he should be accused of the crime he put it into the well. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty, and the judge passed sentence of death in the usual form. The prisoner protested his innocence of the crime of murder.

At Leicester, two poachers, found guilty of an assault, with intent to murder, have been transported for life; and a youth named Bull, convicted of attempting to strangle Anne Clarke, to fifteen years' transportation. The details of this latter case are curious. The prosecutrix, a comely-looking person, who was housekeeper to a farmer at Misterton, deposed that on the evening of the day in question, she was alone in the house with the prisoner, who was also in the same service. On this occasion he pertinaciously repeated proposals of marriage, which he had previously made her, and which she had rejected. There was a great disparity of age between her and him, as she was nearly forty years old. She had laid by some little amount of property. He urged, in support of his offer, the general opinion of the neighbourhood, and stated that "everybody said he was to marry the housekeeper." She, however, was deaf to all his entreaties, and, after reading some hymns and prayers with the prisoner, retired to bed at about ten o'clock. Some little time after she had been in bed the prisoner came to her bedside. He repeated his offers, which she again refused. He had a rope with him, which he proceeded to put round her neck, endeavouring to fasten one end of it to the bed-rail. She struggled with him for some time, and at length, agitated and confused, consented to accept him and promised to come down and sit with him. He went down stairs and lighted a fire. The prosecutrix followed, and made and partook of tea. She sat with him until four o'clock in the morning, when she contrived to make her escape from the house, and aroused some labourers who were sleeping in a building near to whom she communicated her perilous situation, and by whom the prisoner was secured. During the

struggle she had inflicted some scratches upon his lip and face, which bled for some time after he was taken to the lock-up.

A case of interest to all who have an interest in safe travelling by rail has been tried at Norwich. Mr. Peter Ashcroft, the superintendent of the permanent way, or resident engineer of the Eastern Counties Railway, and John Latham, one of his inspectors, were charged with the manslaughter of Thomas Ellison, who with the Rev. Joseph Bell, and four others, was killed by a collision on the above line during the heavy fall of snow in January. The judge stopped the examination of the engine driver who was engaged, at the time of the accident, in forcing the train through the snow on the wrong line, for the purpose of clearing it. This man, his lordship said, should have been indicted. The prosecution immediately threw up its case against the prisoners; and the Chief Baron characterised the whole proceeding as a mockery of justice, for which he should like to know who was responsible.

Two decently-dressed Irishwomen waited upon the Bow-street magistrate the other day, to request his advice under the following circumstances:—They lived in Mint-street, Southwark, and were married women. Many months ago the poor people in their neighbourhood were visited by a Mr. Rowson, who represented himself as the agent of the Oak Insurance Society, and impressed upon them the prudence and advantage of insuring their lives for a small sum, to meet the expenses of their burial, or to enable them to bequeath a little money to their children or relatives. Hundreds were induced, like the applicants, to insure their lives for £10 or £12, by paying 3d. a week, or 1s. a month. They were furnished with policies (printed forms), for which they paid 6d., and some printed rules, which, however, they were most of them unable to understand, not being able to read or write. Once every week the gentleman collected their payments. Applicants had preferred paying monthly instalments of 1s., and one of them had paid 19s. for herself and husband. Two or three of the people had died, but no money had been paid by the society. Mr. Jardine, after looking at the papers handed up, said he would write a note to the magistrate of the district in which the applicants lived, and no doubt some inquiry would be made into the matter.

At the Surrey Sessions, on Wednesday, John Burley, described as a farm labourer, was indicted for stealing one Swede turnip, the property of Charles Hampden, farmer, of Gadstone, Surrey. The evidence of the fact was quite clear, and the chairman having explained that the taking a turnip out of the ground amounted only to a misdemeanour, whilst the taking off the ground constituted a felony, the jury after a short consideration, returned the following sapient verdict:—"We find the prisoner Guilty of taking the turnip, but we don't think he meant to steal it." (Loud laughter.) Chairman: Why, that is virtually an acquittal. Foreman: We believe he took the turnip to eat it because he was hungry, and threw it away when he saw the policeman. Chairman: That is a verdict of guilty, and in pursuance of that opinion, addressing the prisoner, I sentence you to seven days' imprisonment. This trumpety charge, which entailed on the county the expense of a counsel and two witnesses, may be taken as a sample of the majority of ninety-three cases tried at the above sessions, the absurd nature of which called forth some strong remarks from the grand jury on their being discharged.

Justice, if not law, is better administered at Marlborough-street, where Sandy Fraser, a Scotch lad, was brought up on Saturday, charged with stealing a loaf from the shop of a dairyman in Oxford-street. The prisoner pleaded hunger as his excuse, and in reply to questions from Mr. Hardwick, said he had not been more than a week or two from Dalkeith, Scotland, whence he had been driven in consequence of the strike of the workmen employed in a factory where he was apprentice. He had in vain sought to obtain work here, and being in a starving state, he had committed the offence with which he was charged. Mr. Hardwick thought, from the general appearance of the lad, that his story might possibly be true, and as the prosecutor humanely declined to press the charge, it appeared to him the best course would be to send the lad back to his friends in Scotland.

Edward Howard, charged on suspicion of stealing a letter-bag, has been dismissed. Mr. Corrie said, he entertained doubts as to whether a robbery had been committed at all. He could place no reliance upon the evidence of Mansfield, the driver of the mail-cart. At the Lambeth Court, on the same day, a servant in the employ of Mr. Macnamara, contractor to the General Post-office, was fined 20s. for suffering a person, not being the guard, or a person employed for that purpose, to ride upon the carriage used for the conveyance of letter-bags.

A "run-away" impostor has been brought to justice at Brighton. For some time past a coloured man, who gave himself out as Hiram Smith, has been addressing public meetings in this country on the slavery and temperance question, and has obtained considerable assistance from benevolent persons, especially Quakers. He gave himself out as a run-away slave. He obtained some assistance from Mr. L. A. Chamerovzow, Secretary to the Anti-Slavery Society, who, however, found reason to distrust both his story and his honesty. By letters, and through the *Anti-Slavery Reporter* the public were warned against placing confidence in the man, who at length confessed his imposture to Mr. Chamerovzow. It appears he has been at Liverpool, Belfast, Glasgow, London, and other places, lecturing, preaching in pulpits, and drawing large audiences. His history is a remarkable case of of impudent and successful imposture. His last act was the robbery of a coloured man at Brighton of some clothes, valued at £12 and he appears to have been concerned in other acts of robbery and dishonesty.

The Brighton magistrates committed the prisoner to prison for three months, with hard labour, as a rogue and a vagabond. Mr. Chamerovzow deserves great credit for his vigilance in protecting the public from this worthless impostor.

Miscellaneous News.

The Law Amendment Society, Lord Brougham in the chair, have adopted a report on the treatment of juvenile delinquents, recommending the following conclusions:—1. That the powers of summary conviction given by the 10th and 11th Vict., c. 82, should immediately be extended to all offences where the child was under fourteen years of age. 2. That in all such cases the justices should, upon conviction, have a discretionary power either to commit the child to a reformatory school for any period not exceeding the child's minority, or to inflict the punishment now provided. 3. That the sole object of such school should be the reformation and training of the child, so as to render him, on his discharge, self-supporting, and a conscientious member of society. 4. That by such commitment, the managers of the school should be placed *in loco parentis*, and have all the powers of a parent over the child. 5. That the managers should have power, when the child left the reformatory, to apprentice him. 6. That the parents should be liable to contribute to the cost of the child's maintenance in the asylum, and that, where the child was illegitimate, the putative father or mother should be made liable. 7. That the parish in which the child's fixed place of abode may be at the time of committing the offence should be liable to the cost of such maintenance. 8. That existing reformatory schools, when found to be fitted for the purpose, be licensed for the reception of a certain number of juvenile offenders. 9. That counties and boroughs should have power to rate themselves in like manner as boroughs may now do so under the provisions of the 10th and 11th Vict. c. 43. 10. That the constitution of the board of management of such schools should vary according as they may have been established by the voluntary contributions of individual subscribers, or by a rate raised by any county or borough, or by these means conjointly. In the first case, the board to be elected by the subscribers; in the second, to consist of persons elected in like manner as managing committees are under the statute referred to. In the third case, a joint board to be elected. These schools to be subject to permanent inspection, and to be annually reported on.

A return on the subject of railway travelling in the Three Kingdoms, and the receipts from all sources, for the half-year ending the 30th of June, 1853, has appeared. In England and Wales, the mileage in operation had increased from 5,650 to 5,747. The income from all sources was £7,029,246; namely, from goods, cattle, and mails, £3,810,243, and from passengers £3,219,003. The travellers of all "classes" amount to 37,317,544. Analysed, there is an increase under every head as compared with the corresponding half-year of 1852. The mileage is increased 6 per cent; the first-class passengers, in number, 20 per cent; the second-class, 10 per cent; the third-class, 20 per cent; the Parliamentary-class, 10 per cent. The holders of periodical tickets have increased by 20 per cent. The income from passengers has improved by 10 per cent; from goods, cattle, &c., 15 per cent. In Scotland, the mileage was 978; the number of passengers 4,793,167; the income from all sources, £793,981. The mileage in Ireland was 708; the number of passengers, 2,969,604; the income from all sources, £360,830. The money increase in both countries stands thus—Scotland 10 per cent; Ireland, 17 per cent., as compared with the half-year of 1852.

A general fall in the price of bread took place last week throughout the metropolis of a halfpenny in the four-pound loaf. The best bread at the West-end is now 10½d. and 11d.; second quality, 9d. to 9½d.; and third quality, 8½d. and 8d. In the Eastern and Southern Metropolitan districts, the same quality of bread is sold at all times one halfpenny less than in the Central and Western districts.

A mixed gauge is now in course of formation on the railway between Basingstoke and Oxford to complete a direct narrow gauge communication between Southampton and the North of England.

From a voluminous Parliamentary return, issued under the authority of the Board of Trade, we learn that, in the year 1853, the surplus of revenue was £3,255,505, being the largest excess for ten years. The net amount of the several branches of the revenue of the United Kingdom paid into the Exchequer was £54,430,344. The expenditure out of the revenue paid in the same year was £51,174,839. In 1853, the taxes repealed or reduced amounted to £3,247,474, and the estimated amount imposed was £3,356,383. At the end of last year, the balances in the Exchequer were £4,485,230. The capital of the national debt last year was £770,923,001. The quantity of raw cotton imported last year was 895,266,780lbs., and of wool, 111,396,445lbs. The total declared value of British and Irish produce exported last year was £93,357,306. Last year the number of vessels built and registered was 798, of 203,171 tons. The number of vessels belonging to the United Kingdom last year, exclusive of river steamers, was 18,206 of 3,730,087 tons, and the men employed, exclusive of masters, was 172,525. The coinage in the year was £12,664,125. The births in the year were 612,341, the deaths 421,775, and the marriages 162,135. The total paupers relieved were 818,315, and the emigrants numbered 328,807.

The Panama route to our Australian colonies is to be abandoned, in consequence of the Australasian Pacific Steam Navigation Company having determined

to suspend their proposed operations for running a monthly steamer between Sydney and Panama, in connexion with the Royal mail packets between the Isthmus and Southampton. The present high price of coals, and the enormous freights current, render it absolutely impossible to perform the voyages except at a loss, unless the Imperial and colonial Governments should grant an adequate subsidy for conveying the mails. All the representations of the directors of the company to Her Majesty's Government having failed to induce an arrangement of this nature, there has been no option but to abandon the line. Of the five splendid screw steam-ships of 1,650 tons and 350-horse power, built specially for the Australasian Pacific Company, three—viz., the *Menura*, the *Dinornis*, and *Black Swan*—have been sold to the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes Imperiales of France, having previously been tendered for sale to the Admiralty, and the other two—the *Emu* and *Kangaroo*—have been chartered by Government for the transport service for six months certain. The three ships sold to the French company have been disposed of at an advance upon their first cost, and the contract for the other two will, it is stated, yield a remunerative profit.

At Maidstone, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, Mr. Vincent gave three lectures to large and enthusiastic audiences in this growing town. Radical principles are advancing, Church Rates have been voted down by a large majority of the inhabitants, and its old High Church and Tory principles are rapidly crumbling away. At Rochester and Chatham, Mr. Vincent gave the first two of his lectures on the Commonwealth, to densely crowded audiences, on Monday and Thursday last. Dr. Steele, a magistrate of the borough of Rochester, presided at the first meeting, and Mr. Belser at the second. An Independent Committee of seventy-three gentlemen have arranged these lectures, each making himself responsible for their success, and they will pass off most triumphantly. Kent is alive in all directions, and promises, ere long, to be one of the strongholds of advanced opinions. These lectures on the Commonwealth are attended by many staunch Conservatives and Churchmen.

Mr. Kennedy was on Monday elected Alderman for Cheap ward in the room of the late Alderman Thompson, Mr. Thorp, his opponent having retired from the field.

The cholera has abated at Leeds but has not yet ceased. During last week there were eleven cases and two deaths. At Glasgow the visitation has been severe. The deaths on Tuesday in last week, 15; Wednesday, 14; Thursday, 9. There have been 1,280 deaths from cholera within the Glasgow bills of mortality since the beginning of the present outbreak. At Kanturk there has been a decided abatement both in the number of persons attacked and in the virulence of the disease.

The branch from the London and Brighton line to the Crystal Palace was successfully opened on Monday by the passage of a special train, conveying several directors and officers of the Brighton Railway and the Crystal Palace, including Mr. Laing, M.P., the chairman of both companies. This railway diverges from the main line near the Sydenham station, and partially ascends the hill on which the Crystal Palace stands, terminating in a large and convenient station, which, by means of a glass-covered way, communicates directly with the Palace.

By a collision between the American ship *Ann Kemball*, Captain Bike, and the English ship *Bonetta*, Captain William Henry Taw, in the Channel on Friday, the latter vessel was sunk within two minutes of the accident, carrying with her nine of the crew, the captain's wife, and three children. The captain and two mates were saved. The *Ann Kemball* put into Plymouth with five feet of water in her hold.

Mr. M'Gregor has resigned the managing directorship of the South Eastern Railway.

The Oxford Hebdomadal Board has agreed, by a majority of 15 to 3, to petition the House of Commons against the Ministerial measure for the reform of the University.

Literature.

Musical Letters from Abroad. By LOWELL MASON. New York: Mason, Brothers.

THE author of this volume has lately become known in England as an active worker in the field of popular musical instruction, and especially of Congregational church music. The letters it contains were written during his sojourn in this country, and while touring on the continent. They principally sought the gratification of his pupils and friends in America, and were originally published in various transatlantic journals. The actual information they furnish is but slight; but their personal incidents, observations on the state and culture of music, and gossip about musical people, will be found pleasant and amusing.

Mr. Mason does not claim for himself the eminence of a highly scientific musician; and many of his criticisms bear witness to a lively susceptibility and respect for traditional opinions, rather than to originality, or profound perception, or fine and catholic culture. One of the most ambitious passages of the work is on a topic that will, perhaps, have more interest for our readers than most on which Mr. Mason dwells, so we extract it as a favourable specimen of the volume.

MADAME SONTAG AND JENNY LIND.

"Singing (so also music generally, and other fine arts) may be divided into two general classes, or styles, corresponding to the sublime and beautiful in nature. These have been

sometimes designated by the terms *great* and *small*; or, with qualifications and exceptions, *serious* and *humorous*; or, when carried to extremes, *tragic* and *comic*; and singers as well as actors usually excel in the one style or in the other. There may be now and then one who does well in both (Garriek, for example); but true excellence in both departments is not to be looked for in the same person. It is the office of the *great* style to move the deeper feelings of the soul, or to call forth the most powerful emotions belonging to humanity; and this it does sometimes by strains the most simple, or even by a single tone; while, at others, a similar effect may be produced by an immense volume of voice, or by great executive power. The style which has been called *small* (only, however, in a good sense of the term), excites the gentler feelings, brings up to the imagination figures of beauty and loveliness, and fills the soul with pure delight. . . . *Mara* and *Catalini* both belonged to the *great* school; but it does not follow that they were alike. Perhaps it may be safe to say that it belonged to *Mara* to speak, in deep-felt yet simple tones, to the heart; and to *Catalini*, by her immense power of voice, to excite feelings of awe and reverence, or, by the overcoming of extreme difficulties of execution, to awaken those of wonder and astonishment. Of living artists, *Grisi* may be classed with those who can sing in the *great* style; though she belongs rather to that department which may be called *tragic*. *Vardöl Garcia* also moves in the same lofty sphere, and is, probably, the first singer in the world, in this style; and to the same class, too, belongs the *Fräulein Wagner* of Berlin. . . . To the *beautiful* style (*small*, technically,) belongs Jenny Lind; and to this style, also, belongs the no less perfect artist, the Countess Rossi-Sontag. But, while we assign to the same general class both of these inimitable artists, they are, as has already been said, unlike. We can only mention a few of the points of difference. Jenny Lind has a voice of higher compass; she has, also, more strength of lungs or command of breath, and can, therefore, prolong a tone to greater length, and sing with a greater degree of power than Sontag. On the other hand, Sontag has a richer low voice, and, throughout its whole compass, greater purity of tone. With respect to this point, Sontag's voice is perfect. And not only in their natural, but in their acquired powers, do they differ; and the musicians, some of them, say that Sontag has the more perfect school. But we prefer not to express our opinion on this point, nor will we venture to say which has the greater execution; they are, in this respect, both stars of the first magnitude; and either of them is sufficiently bright to dazzle the eyes of a common beholder. . . . Their favourite characters are the same, and the very parts in which Jenny Lind excelled, and out-rivalled every one else, are the same which Sontag represents better than they have ever been represented before. To her pre-eminent histrionic talent Sontag, undoubtedly, owes much of her great success; her acting is, certainly, not inferior to her singing. But this is said also of Jenny Lind, and by highly intelligent critics, who have seen them both in the same character."

This is a very safe sort of criticism; and although it is, as we have said, as good as anything in the book, it will scarcely obtain for Mr. Mason higher praise than that of being a fair common-place, and not very discriminating, critic. The author gives very full, detailed accounts of the Musical Festivals of Birmingham, Norwich, and Dusseldorf, which, perhaps, to American readers, more distant from such scenes, and less familiar with such performances than we are here in England, may be both interesting and serviceable. It does not appear that Mr. Mason saw much of the inner circle of the English musical world, and we do not see that he even alludes to the first and best of our musicians, Mr. Sterndale Bennett.

When Mr. Mason writes of Congregational music, as he found it in the churches and chapels of this country, he shows much good sense and proper taste. In this particular department he is *great*. But he does not confine his critical judgments to the singing or organ-playing; he also takes in the *sermons* and the *preachers*. We can only conjecture what may be the feelings with which the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, Mr. Binney, Mr. James, Dr. Reed, and others, read the passages in which they are described or their discourses murdered; for greater nonsense about preaching never was written. *Ne sutor ultra crepidam*.

Lectures on the Theory and Practice of Homœopathy. By R. E. DUDGEON, M.D. London: Aylott and Co.

THE Lectures contained in this volume were delivered at the Hahnemann Hospital, during the sessions 1852-3. We have never seen so full and comprehensive an account of the principles and practice of Homœopathy. The thorough and minute researches, and the extensive experience of the author, have enabled him to bring together the largest and most valuable body of facts and information that we have met with in Homœopathic literature; and this is accompanied by an intelligent and interesting account of the views and statements of all the principal writers on the subject, both English and Foreign. Dr. Dudgeon displays a strong and acute mind, richly informed, of philosophical habit, and of candid temper. He is thoroughly impartial and independent in judgment; and always clear and forcible in his expositions. On many theoretical points he differs from Hahnemann and most of his successors, especially as to the true explanation of the curative process; the author maintaining that—

"— the recognised methods of cure and the Homœopathic may be reconciled, if we go deep enough and take a more philosophical view of the vital actions than has hitherto been done by the partisans of either method; if we look thoroughly into the actual operations of the organism, and do not allow ourselves to mistake words for ideas, or to accept error, however ancient and time-honoured, for truth."

He also dissents from Hahnemann's doctrine of

chronic diseases, and his theory of the dynamization of medicines. At the same time, he has the fullest confidence in the truth of the Homœopathic therapeutic principle established by Hahnemann, and does full justice to his genius and brilliant discoveries. He adds, in concluding—

"I am very far from agreeing with those Homœopathic practitioners who see in the doctrines of Hahnemann a perfect and unimprovable system of medicine; on the contrary, I believe there is much, very much to be done. . . . There are still vast difficulties attending the selection of the remedy; the rule for the administration of the appropriate dose remains yet to be discovered; the best periods for the repetition of the medicine are still uncertain, and there are still many diseases that are not amenable to the very best treatment."

We, as laymen, are inclined to regard this work as the most comprehensive and most rational treatise on Homœopathy yet produced. We desire highly to commend and recommend it; and especially to the "misbelieving" in the profession; while it is intelligible enough, also, for the non-medical reader.

The Religion of the Heart. A Manual of Faith and Duty. By LEIGH HUNT. London: John Chapman.

LEIGH HUNT among the Prophets! And the result is, verily, a sort of *Skimpolism* in religion! The book contains a "Daily Service," and a "Sunday Service," with occasional "Aspirations." Fancy a man being instructed, that "when the hour has arrived in the morning, at which he thinks it right to get up," he is to get out of bed and say to himself, "with the greatest attention," these words:—"In the name of the Great Beneficence, to whom be all reverence, with a filial trust!" And then on Sundays, "the family or other congregation will assemble;" and "the organ or seraphine" will play music "of a gentle character," which is "to be considered a preparation for Silent Reflections;" and a "Liturgy" is to be commenced thus—"The heart bids us adore the great and serene Mystery of the Universe" &c. &c. The chief part of the book, however, contains "Exercises," or brief essays and meditations; some of which, apart from their being intended as religious thinking for hours of devotion, are not without suggestiveness and worth. But the most amusing thing about the book is, that it sounds the praises of Mr. Francis W. Newman, as a man "remarkable no less for the fervour than the liberality of his piety;" and that Mr. Newman has written a letter, which he "has kindly permitted" the publisher to print, characterising Mr. Leigh Hunt's book as "very acceptable," "a contribution to the Church of the Future," containing "all that tenderness of wisdom which is the peculiar possession and honour of advanced years." Two gentlemen, *bankrupt* of reputation among the religious, obliging each other with accommodation bills!

The Principles of Education. By HUGO REID. London: Longman and Co.

MR. HUGO REID is generally known as the author of various useful educational works. In this thoughtful and well-written volume he offers a guide to parents and teachers entering on the office of the educator. He first exhibits a view of the nature to be educated; then defines and discusses the aims and objects of education; and lastly, in describing the means to be employed, treats of discipline, moral training, instruction, and intellectual culture. Mr. Reid has not sought to avoid topics, or omit counsels, which the experienced educator may think unnecessary or too obvious for remark; as his purpose is to meet the instructor at the outset of his career, and to discuss with him, or explain to him, from the very rudiments of his art, all that must enter into his plans and efforts. The general character and objects of such an elementary treatise, almost exclude the facts of the religious nature of the being to be educated, and the means of that development thereof, without which we cannot admit any education to be worthy of the name; yet, so far as it goes, it is based on true principles, definitely and clearly conceived, and is well adapted to aid the improvement of education, both public and private. It is especially suited to the correction of some narrow, partial, and prejudiced views, which still linger in the popular estimate of the range and means of a sufficient education.

Modern Husbandry; a Practical and Scientific Treatise on Agriculture. By G. H. ANDREWS, Esq., C.E. With Illustrations drawn by Duncan and Weir. London: Nathaniel Cooke.

It is justly pointed out by Mr. Andrews, that although there are several most valuable Agricultural treatises, they are so extensive and costly, and their information so diffused and detailed, that they are unsuitable to the practical and actively-engaged farmer, however much adapted, or even necessary, to the more leisurely scientific man. While we can offer only an amateur opinion on these matters, we do happen to have

taken some interest in practical agriculture, and to have studied carefully Stephens's excellent and unsurpassed, but too elaborate, "Book of the Farm." We can therefore distinguish in Mr. Andrews's work, the merits of concentration of information, simplicity in conveying it, and prominence of fact and experience rather than of theory in the discussion of the various topics. And while all the chapters—embracing the choice, draining, cultivating, and manuring of land; the breeding and rearing of stock; and the general management and economy of the farm—are treated succinctly, clearly, and with the greatest possible amount of information; we would especially name those on Geology, on the Laws affecting the Farmer, and on the Mechanics and Engineering of Agriculture, as remarkably important, and affording the latest facts and best guidance on their subjects.

The Results of the Census of Great Britain in 1851.

With a description of the Machinery and Processes employed to obtain the Returns. Also an Appendix of Tables of Reference. By EDWARD CHESHIRE, Fellow of the Statistical Society. Thirteenth Thousand; revised. London: J. W. Parker.

To transcribe this title-page is to recommend the work, when it is added that Mr. Cheshire is one of our most competent Statisticians and that this Essay was read before the Statistical Section at last year's meeting of the British Association. It is condensed from voluminous folios, which not only are not consulted "by one person in a million," but which not one in ten thousand could consult intelligently, and apply the results to practical purposes truthfully and advantageously. In this admirably arranged shilling pamphlet Mr. Cheshire has ably condensed a body of facts and statistical information, such as exists nowhere else in a digested form,—on Population—its increase, displacements, and the causes by which its growth is affected,—on Families—their constituent parts, the proportions of the sexes, and the varieties of habitations,—on Towns—their composition, growth, and relation to the country population,—on Territorial Subdivisions, and on the Smaller Islands of the British group, historically and socially. Every page is thus full of social, moral, and political suggestions. The philanthropist here finds guides and indications, for lack of which he has often worked aimlessly and even injuriously. The economist finds the materials for his science, whereby he will have to rectify some imperfect parts of his previous structure, or may certify previously doubtful conclusions. The statesman here arrives at laws higher than his own, at ordinances of the providence of the world, which he must co-operate with, to legislate wisely, justly, and beneficently. Nor is there anyone who has not an interest in the facts that lie on these pages; nor anyone to whom they will not be serviceable, as a man and a citizen. The results established by the census inquiry, and here clearly brought out and explained, justify what we say, and commend the pamphlet to attentive study. Briefly, they are, an increase of population in the last half-century nearly equalling the increase in all preceding ages—a contemporaneous emigration which has peopled large states in America, and given large colonies to every temperate region of the earth—an immigration of the Irish population into Great Britain, and the flow of the country population into towns,—the rapid diminution of the proportion of land to each person,—the increased mental activity of the people,—the intimate union between town and country, and the equal balance of their respective populations. These are topics so full of interest and so significant, that this summary of the latest facts relating to them must be universally acceptable and valuable;

BOOKS RECEIVED.

History of the French Protestant Refugees. [W. Blackwood & Co. Illustrated Family Novelist. N. Cooke.
Johnson's Lives of the Poets. N. Cooke.
Elements of Political Science. Johnstone and Hunter.
Annotated Edition of English Poets. J. W. Parker.
Germ Thoughts in Morals, Politics, Education and Philosophy. Aylott and Co.
The Schools of Doubt, and the Schools of Faith. J. Constable & Co.
Adventures in the Wilds of North America. Longman, Brown and Co.
New System of Fixing Artificial Teeth. Hope & Co.
The Glorious Gospel of the Blessed God. Hope & Co.
Heavenly Things. J. Nisbet & Co.
Morbids and other Poems. Saunders & Otley.
Evenings in my Tent. Vols. I. and II. A. Hall, Virtue & Co.
The Lost Child. C. Westerton.
The Priest and the Huguenot. T. Nelson & Sons.
An Invalid's Pastime. Wertheim & Macintosh.
Paul Gerhardt. Vols. I. and II. Knight & Son.
The Red Cross. James Judd.
A Lamp to the Path. T. Nelson & Sons.
True Theory of a Church. James Judd.
Judith; or, an Old Picture of Absolutism. Partridge & Oakley.
Protestant Principles; or, the Ultimate Appeal in Religious Controversy. J. Nisbet & Co.
May Dundas. Fletcher.
Harris's Poems. W. Pickering.
The Chronicles of Merry England. A. Hall & Co.
Scripture Teachers' Assistant. E. Batt.
The Bible. Blackader & Co.
The Dead Sea and its Explorers. William Freeman.
Christian Spectator. William Freeman.
Facts without Fiction. W. and F. G. Cash.
Working Women. W. and F. G. Cash.
Memoirs of Rev. J. Smith. J. Mason.
Bristol Tabernacle Centenary. Partridge and Oakley.
Friendships of the Bible. Partridge and Oakley.
Diary of Lolla Ada. Partridge and Oakley.
Swedenborg. By Paxton Hood. A. Hall & Co.
An Apology for Hebrew Prophecy. Holyoake & Co.
Whittaker's Educational Register.
Russia. Parts 57, 58, and 59. Travellers' Library.
Popery in the First Century. Trubner & Co.
The Seed. Simpkin, Marshall & Co.
The Unity of the New Testament. J. W. Parker & Son.
Intelligence of Animal Creation. 2nd Edition. W. Freeman.

Cleanings.

Cardinal Wiseman has ordered that a special prayer be used in the Catholic churches that the armies of the Queen may prevail over her enemies.

Mr. Mechi, of Leadenhall-street, the well-known agriculturalist, has agreed to give a rental of £500 per annum for a stall in the Crystal Palace, eight feet by eight!

Mr. Hemans, the son of the poetess, has resided at Rome for more than six years, as the correspondent of a London newspaper: he is a "most exemplary" Roman Catholic.

The Free Church Commission have resolved to issue instructions to the ministers of the church to have respect to the impending war in their public ministrations.

The Corporation of London don't know what their tolls on carts and waggons produce, but they report to Parliament that a contractor pays them £5,810 a year for the privilege of collecting them.

Lord Raglan takes out with him to the East, at the suggestion of Prince Albert, an experienced photographer. French letters, science and art will be represented at Constantinople by a crowd of their accepted servants.

The King of Siam has read a lesson to the most Catholic and bigoted Queen of Spain. His Asiatic Majesty has, it is stated, actually purchased for the Protestants residing in his capital a spacious and convenient place of burial.

The following conundrum procured for its author a gold watch a few days ago at Liverpool:—"Why is a locomotive engine like a habitual drunkard? Answer. Because it is continually over the line; often wets its whistle, and is accustomed to draughts!"

In his "Purple Tints of Paris," Mr. St. John does not speak very favourable of state-educated France. "The great reason," he says, "of the misfortunes of France is want of education, using that word in its widest sense." He relates incredible anecdotes of the ignorance and defective information of the "educated classes" on the most ordinary subjects.

The Town Council of Dundee have forwarded an address to the Emperor of the French, in which they congratulate his Majesty on the union existing between France and England, and on his marriage with a descendant of an ancient Scottish family!

Mr. Calvert intends shortly to commence erecting his reduction and smelting works in Merionethshire, for the purpose of extracting gold from various ores and rock. The establishment will cover several acres of ground, and will be capable of treating about 5,000 tons per week.

A medical man in the *Leeds Mercury* says, "Repeated observation has convinced me that a very large proportion of those who, Sunday after Sunday, disturb our congregations by their coughs, are not the subject of any diseased condition, but that their coughing is either voluntary or is simply the result of habit. The action, performed at first because it is agreeable, by frequent repetition comes to be performed involuntarily, and almost insensibly to the individual."

Mr. Disraeli's three hours speech of last week does not appear to have been at all successful. The House would not listen, and at one period it was assailed with ominous cries of "Divide, divide." The *Times* says he is in imminent danger of becoming "a bore." He is (says a writer in the *Leader*) in the "delirium tremens" stage of politics. His drams are killing him as a public man. Somebody once told Sheridan that brandy destroyed the coats of the stomach; "then my stomach," said the wag, "must go in its waistcoat." Mr. Disraeli is beginning to debate in his shirt sleeves.

The Emperor of Russia is said to be proprietor of several stores and house concerns in Limerick. Will they now be confiscated to the British Crown?

In his "Purple Tints of Paris," Mr. St. John says that it is an article of French meteorological faith that England is always covered by one dense mist. "I remember being one day at Marseilles. I stood on a terrace, watching a shower of rain that was crossing the bay diagonally, and had just shrouded the Chateau d'If in its million threads. At that moment a French fellow-traveller came up to me, and said, with the most innocent air in the world, 'I suppose you would consider this to be a fine day in England?' At first I thought he was actuated by the pestilent spirit of mockery inherent in his race; but no, he was quite serious, asking for information; so I observed, that as corn and other things ripened in England, there must be a little sun now and then. He touched his hat apologetically. 'Pardon—he had not thought of that.'"

At a sale of autographs held on Wednesday at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's of Piccadilly, there was offered for sale a most interesting letter of Oliver Cromwell, addressed in his own hand, "For my esteemed friend Mr. Cotton, pastor to the church at Boston in New England, theise," October 2, 1651. This interesting letter was written shortly after the battle of Worcester. He alludes to the difficulties he has experienced in treating with some of the Scotch party, "whose were (I verily think) godly, but, thorough weakness and the subtiltye of Satan, inuolued in interests against the Lord and his people. With what tendernes we have proceeded with such, and that in synocritye, our papers (which I suppose you have seen) will in part manifest, and I give you some comfortable assurance off. The Lord hath marvellously appeared euen against them, and now againe, when all the power was deuolued into the Scottish Kinge and the malignant partie, they inuadeinge England, the Lord rayned vpon them such snares as the enclosed will shew, only the narrative is short in this, that of their whole armie when the narrative was framed not fise of their whole armie were returned. . . . What is the Lord a doing? What prophesies are now fulfilling? Whoe is a god like

ours?" The letter concludes with many expressions of Christian sympathy. Mr. Carlyle does not appear to have seen the original letter, but has used the copy among the Arundel MSS. After a vigorous competition, the lot above described sold for £36 to Mr. H. Stevens, the American agent.

The following story is told by *Chambers' Edinburgh Journal*.—A London upholsterer some years ago had furnished one of those villas which rise by thousands on the skirts of the metropolis in a rather expensive style, to suit the taste of the occupant, which was strong for fashion and finery; but unfortunately, the gentleman entertained a companion predilection for letting accounts remain unsettled; and after two years' dunning, the worthy tradesman found that there was no chance of getting paid without the help of law. To law, accordingly, he had recourse; and execution was obtained, but how to serve it became the difficulty. The gentleman in demand had more reasons than that for keeping within doors—moreover, his front entrance was kept securely locked, and nobody admitted without careful scrutiny from behind the venetians. The sheriff's officer was at his wit's end, till the upholsterer found out that his inaccessible friend had a relation in the country. We know not whether the custom of previous years suggested the scheme to him, but, with or without such suggestion, he packed a hamper at the approach of Christmas-time, so poultry-like, that most people would have said "Turkeys!" at the first sight of it. The Sheriff's officer, in porter's guise, wheeled it along in his hand-cart; and being reconnoitred as usual, was at once admitted with the present, when he served the execution, and the bill was "arranged for" instantly.

The monster steam-ship (screw and paddle) of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, is about being commenced in the yard of Messrs. Scott Russell and Co. It will be 700 feet long, or 430 longer than the *Himalaya*:—tonnage 10,000 tons, or builder's measurement 22,000; stowage for coals, 10,000 tons; stowage for cargo, 5,000 tons; 500 first-class cabins, with ample space for second and third-class passengers, besides troops, &c., while her screw and paddle engines will be of the aggregate nominal power of 2,800 horse. She will also carry an immense quantity of sail. The principle of her construction, as designed by Mr. Brunel, will be precisely similar to the tube of the Britannia-bridge. Her bottom, decks, and sides are to be double, and of a cellular form, with two feet six inches between. She will have no fewer than fourteen water-tight compartments, also two divisional bulk-heads running her whole length.

A most extraordinary account has reached us (*Notes and Queries*) in a private letter from Vienna to a high personage here, and has been the talk of our salons for the last few days. It appears that the circumstance of the death of General Haynau presented a phenomenon of the most awful kind on record. For many days after death the warmth of life yet lingered in the right arm and left leg of the corpse, which remained limpid and moist, even bleeding slightly when pricked. No delusion, notwithstanding, could be maintained as to the reality of death, for the other parts of the body were completely mortified, and interment became necessary before the two limbs above mentioned had become either stiff or cold. The writer of the letter mentioned that this strange circumstance produced the greatest awe in the minds of those who witnessed it, and that the Emperor had been so impressed with it, that his physicians had forbidden the subject to be alluded to in his presence. This statement was copied from a French paper immediately after the decease of General Haynau was known in Paris.

BIRTHS.

March 23rd, at Sussex-square, Mrs. LONGMAN, of a daughter.
March 26th, at Droxholm, Glasgow, Mrs. MACFARLANE, of a son.
March 25th, the wife of Mr. A. TWELVETREES, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

January 18th, at Brooklyn, New York, Mr. M. J. CLUFF, late of Kettering, Northamptonshire, to CHARLOTTE third daughter of the late Mr. J. CHILD.
March 20th, at Greenwich-road Chapel, by the Rev. William Lucy, Mr. GEORGE JONES to Miss ELIZABETH SUSANNAH DOBSON, both of Greenwich.
March 21st, at Surrey Chapel, by the Rev. James Sherman, the Rev. FRANCIS BARON, of Ripley, Christchurch, to SOPHIA EMMA SELLS, second daughter of EDWARD FERONET SELLS, Esq., of Ferring, Sussex.
March 21st, at Ebenezer Chapel, Sunderland, by the Rev. R. W. M'ALL, Mr. WILLIAM EMBINGTON, to Miss MARY ANNE PUNSON.
March 23rd, at Ipswich, ARTHUR RUSSELL EIDELL, of Colchester, son of J. C. EIDELL, of that place, to ELIZA CRISP, eldest daughter of the late Mr. JOSEPH S. BUCK, of Ipswich.
March 23rd, at Hanover-street Chapel, Halifax, by the Rev. J. Howard, Mr. A. S. FROXIN, of Liverpool, to SARAH ANN, eldest daughter of Mr. I. BAISTOW, of the former place.
March 25th, at Erdington, Warwickshire, by the Rev. J. A. James, Mr. T. S. JAMES, solicitor, of Birmingham, to ELIZABETH, second daughter of Mr. WILLIAM FOWLER, of Birches-green, near Birmingham.
March 27th, at the Tabernacle, Chippenham, by the Rev. H. Thomas, brother of the bridegroom, Mr. J. THOMAS, Classical teacher, to Miss EDMONDS.

DEATHS.

March 7th, at Bayswater, of bronchitis, JOHN S. RICHARDS, Esq., R.N., late of Teignmouth, Devonshire, in his 94th year.
March 21st, six days after her mother, at Heavitree, Devon, MARIA, second daughter of the late Prebendary DENNIS, of Exeter.
March 21st, at Truro Veau, Truro, WILLIAM TWEEDY, Esq., a well-known member of the Society of Friends, aged 87 years. The deceased was a liberal and zealous supporter of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Truro British Schools, and of most of the useful and charitable institutions of the county.
March 21st, aged 39 years, SARAH, the beloved wife of Mr. W. S. ADAMS, 3, Cecilia-place, Spa-road, Bournemouth.
March 22nd, at his residence, Milton-villas, Lindfield, in the 74th year of his age, SAMUEL JACKSON, Esq., formerly of Islington.
March 23rd, at Sandgate, Kent, WILLIAM GEORGE WINDHAM, the only surviving son of FRANCIS and JULIA DANIEL TYSEN.
March 23rd, at Teignmouth, aged eight months, suddenly, in a convulsive fit, JOHN SEBASTIAN, the second son of the Rev. A. D. SALMON.
March 24th, the Rev. W. P. APPLEFORD of Toxeth Park, Liverpool, aged 38.
March 27th, at Totnes, EDITH ELLEN, infant daughter of the Rev. T. E. HOSKIN, aged 15 months.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday evening.

The past has been an extraordinary week on the Stock Exchange. The rupture with Russia, combined with the drain of gold and the falling of the continental markets, has produced a heavy fall in public securities. During the week the decline in Consols has been fully 4 per cent. Yesterday there was a fall of 1 per cent, and to-day there has been a further decline of $\frac{1}{2}$. Owing to the reported crossing of the Danube by the Russians, their defeat at Turtukai, and the increasing distrust regarding Austria and Prussia, the market has been in a state of great agitation. There is, however, a general belief that Consols have now touched their lowest point. Consols were first dealt in this morning at 86 $\frac{1}{2}$ 86 $\frac{1}{2}$ for money and time, and there were subsequently bargains at 86 $\frac{1}{2}$. There was then a fall to 87 $\frac{1}{2}$, with a subsequent rally to 86 86 $\frac{1}{2}$, the difference for Money and Account having entirely passed off. The Money Market during the last few days of the past week was rather easier, first class bills being discounted, if of short dates, at 5 per cent., and the demand was not by any means so great as it had been.

The Bank of England returns for the week ending Saturday, the 18th instant, showed two very important features. The private or other securities were £1,500,000 in excess of the previous week, and thus exhibited the large increase of its discount and loan business, and the active demand there had been for money. The stock of bullion was further reduced by about £560,000, which, with the decrease of the two previous weeks, makes a total falling off of about £1,500,000. The arrivals of bullion during the week, including the gold by the *Sydney*, have amounted to about £460,000, of which about £60,000 was silver. The exports are estimated at about the same sum, almost entirely in gold to the Continent.

The market for Foreign Securities is very heavy, and there has again been a heavy fall in Russian stocks. It appears by advices from St. Petersburg that the Russian paper currency is already at a discount of more than 13 per cent. Russian Five per Cents. were lower, at 82 to 82 $\frac{1}{2}$; Mexican fell to 22 to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$; Spanish Deferred, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$; Passive, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$; Portuguese Four per Cents. 34; Dutch Stocks were flatter, the Two and a-half per Cents., 51 $\frac{1}{2}$; the Four per Cents., 82.

In the share market a few of the heavy stocks were 10s. to £1 lower, including Midlands, North Westerns, Brightons, and Great Westerns. Eastern Counties ranged from 11 to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; Caledonians, 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 51; Great Northern, 84 to 85; Great Westerns, 73 to 72 $\frac{1}{2}$; Lancashire and Yorkshire, from 60 to 60 $\frac{1}{2}$; North Westerns, 94 to 94 $\frac{1}{2}$; South Westerns, 73 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 74 $\frac{1}{2}$; Midlands, 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 56 $\frac{1}{2}$; South Easterns, 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 58 $\frac{1}{2}$; South Wales, 29 to 31. York and North Midland, 42 to 43; Preference Shares were better supported. Luxembourgs improved, but French shares were dealt in at lower prices. There was no particular feature in miscellaneous shares. Australian Agricultural Company were steady at 31 to 32; Australian Pacific Mail, 13; Peel River, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.; Crystal Palace, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ prem.

The French loan has been more than subscribed, and it has been officially announced that all subscriptions for over 1,000 francs will have to be proportionately reduced, the Government preferring to place the loan in the hands of small holders. It has, therefore, been little touched by speculators or capitalists on this side of the Channel. It is quoted at $\frac{1}{2}$ discount to par.

The negotiations for a Turkish loan have been concluded with Messrs. Rothschild. It is to be for £2,200,000 sterling in a 6 per cent. stock at 85, redeemable in fifteen years. It is quoted at $\frac{1}{2}$ premium, but the public are not much disposed in its favour.

Messrs. Möller and Burroughs, foreign exchange dealers, have suspended payment. It is understood that the creditors of Messrs. Warwick, Harrison, and Warwick, shawl and silk manufacturers, who failed on the 15th inst., have agreed to accept a composition of 16s. in the pound. The liabilities of Messrs. Dickson and Co., who failed on the 4th, are stated at £398,988, (of which £213,098 is the amount uncovered,) while their assets are estimated at £218,110. The estate is, therefore, expected to yield only from 7s. to 10s. in the pound.

The accounts from the manufacturing towns for the past week show the general effect of the recent accidental concurrence of a drain of specie with the vague apprehensions inevitable on the commencement of war. At Manchester transactions have been almost suspended, and the decline in quotations has been increased by the simultaneous heaviness of the Liverpool cotton-market. At Birmingham, however, as usual, all is going on well. The Nottingham accounts describe general stagnation as regards both the home and foreign demand, while in the woollen districts there has been greater dullness than during any preceding week of the year, although prices on the whole have been well maintained. In the Irish linen-market there has been a slight improvement owing to an increase in the foreign orders for the coarser qualities.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week show a great decrease. They have comprised only three vessels—one to Port Phillip, of 314 tons; one to Adelaide, of 592 tons; and one to Launceston, of 292 tons. Their total capacity was consequently only 1,198 tons. The rates of freight, which had been heavy, exhibited a firmer tendency on Monday owing to the favourable nature of the advices from Australia by the overland mail.

In the general business of the port of London during

the past week there has been great activity, the supply of grain which has come to hand having been larger than for a long time. The number of ships reported inward was 467, being 261 over the previous week, and the total quantity of grain reported 224,225 quarters, including 113,260 quarters of wheat. The number of vessels cleared outward was 106, being 8 less than the previous week. Of these 24 were in ballast, and three, as above stated, for the Australian colonies. The total of vessels on the berth loading for those colonies on the 22d inst. was 84, being the same number as on the 22d ult. Their destination is—10 for Adelaide, 6 for Geelong, 12 for Hobart Town, 3 for Launceston, 11 for Melbourne, 3 for New Zealand, 14 for Port Phillip, 1 for Portland Bay, 23 for Sydney, and 1 for Swan River.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday	Monday	Tuesday
3 per Ct. Consols	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2
Consols for Ac-	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2
count.....	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2
3 per Cent. Red	—	—	—	—	—	—
New 3 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Annuities.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock....	234	234	—	—	—	—
Bank Stock.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exchange Bills	par.	6 dis.	2 pm.	2 pm.	2 dis.	2 pm.
India Bonds....	—	—	—	—	7 dis.	—
Long Annuities	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Gazette.

Friday, March 24th, 1854.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 82, for the week ending on Saturday, the 18th day of March, 1854.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	28,062,515	Government Debt	11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	14,062,515
		Silver Bullion	—

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	14,533,000	Government Securities	—
Reserve	3,780,877	Dead Weight Annuity	—
Public Deposits	3,678,817	Other Securities	11,844,700
Other Deposits	11,305,383	Notes	7,778,665
Seven Day and other	—	Gold and Silver Coin	760,324
Bills	1,128,507		

£234,396,584

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier

Dated the 23rd day of March, 1854.

BANKRUPTCY.

BILLINGS, W., Prescott, builder &c., April 4 and 25, at 11, at the Liverpool Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Morgan, Liverpool. Sols. Evans and Co., Liverpool.

BROWN, R., and BURNHAM, J. Bedford, common brewers, March 29 and May 13, at 12, at the Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Nicholson, Basinghall-street. Sols. Messrs. Rhodes, Lane, and Rhodes, Chancery-lane, and Messrs. Smith and Argles, Potton, Bedfordshire.

ISHERWOOD, R., and FODEN, S. Liverpool, wool and cotton dealers, April 6, and May 3, at the Liverpool Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Turner, Liverpool. Sol. Mr. Booker, Liverpool.

KING, H. H., Bristol, dealer and chapman, April 4, and May 2, at 11, at the Bristol Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Acraman, Sol. Mr. Bretan, Bristol.

LEICESTER, P., Birchin-lane, London, April 4 and May 2, at the Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. R. W. Edwards, Basinghall-street. Sol. Mr. Brewer, Pall-mall-lane, Fenchurch-street.

LIVESTR, W., Vauxhall Bridge Road, gas fitter, April 5 and May 13, at 12, at the Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Nicholson, Basinghall-street. Sol. Mr. Chidley, Gresham-street.

MORRIS, W., Ludlow, Shropshire, innkeeper, April 3, May 1, at 10, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Mr. Backhouse, Bridgnorth; Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham. Off. assign. Mr. Bittleson, Birmingham.

QUICK, F., Bristol, Jeweller, April 7 and May 5, at half-past 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street. Sols. Messrs. Taylor and Collinson, Great James-street, Bedford-row; and Messrs. Bevan and Gilling, Bristol.

ROOSE, J., Paddington, builder, March 31 at 11, and May 5 at half-past 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Caman, Aldermanbury. Sols. Messrs. Dawson and Bryan, Bedford-square.

SADLER, J., Birkenhead, brewer, April 6, and May 5, at 11, at the Liverpool Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Turner, Liverpool. Sols. Messrs. Fletcher and Hall, Liverpool.

SHUTTLEWORTH, W., Stratford-upon-Avon, innkeeper, April 5, and May 3, at 12, at the Birmingham Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Christie, Birmingham. Sols. Mr. Lane, jun., Stratford-upon-Avon; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

STREANE, L., Great St. Helen's, merchant, April 5 and May 2, at 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Off. assign. Mr. Graham. Sols. Messrs. Norton and Son, New-street, Bishopsgate.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

BLADON, H., and COATES, H. Manchester, stuff merchants and warehousemen.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

H. FOWLER, Bushey, Herts, cattle dealer—second and final div. of 8d., on Wednesday, and the subsequent Wednesday, at Mr. Lee's, 35, Moorgate-street.

C. VANDERVAERT, of the Quadrant, silk mercer—second and final div. of 1d., on Wednesday next, and subsequent Wednesday, at Mr. Lee's, 35, Moorgate-street.

T. LINNELL, commission agent, Gresham-street—first div. of 6s. 1d., any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.

R. POPE and J. B. POPE, Adelaide-place, London-bridge, brick manufacturers—first div. of 5d., any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.

D. F. KENNEDY, Oxford-street, victualler—second div. of 5d., next Tuesday, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

B. C. R. COCO, Ceylon merchant—first div. of 12s. 3d., on Tuesday next, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

J. G. LACY, Great St. Helen's, gun manufacturer—second div. of 8s., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

R. TOMSETT, Woolwich, builder—second div. of 8d., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

C. JACOB, Fenchurch-street, merchant—div. of 4s., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

J. DAVIS, Railway Hotel, Colney Hatch—first div. of 3s. 4d., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

J. SLATERS, Cheapside, warehouseman—second div. of 1d., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

H. ALDRIDGE, Ipswich, corn and coal merchant—first div. of 8d., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

B. C. BULLY, North Walsham, money scrivener—first div. of 1s. 2d., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

T. BALLARD, Paddington, apothecary—first div. of 1s. on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

T. MANSON, Lloyd's Coffee-house, underwriter—second div. of 1d., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

H. TAYLOR, Water-lane, coal dealer—further div. of 4d., on Tuesday, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

M. BOWELL, Fleece Inn, Manchester, publican—first div. of 9s., on Tuesday, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Hornham's, Manchester.

B. BROWN, Dextwich, salt manufacturer—first div. of 7d., on Thursday, at Mr. Christie's, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

T. BRAD, Glasgow, builder, April 3rd, at the Buck-head Hotel, Glasgow.

A. OLIVER and Co., Glasgow, merchants, April 4, at the Globe Hotel, Glasgow.

PATRICKSON and ROBINSON, calico printers, April 4, at the Vulcan Hotel, Paisley.

Tuesday, March 28th, 1854.

This "Gazette" contains a notice that the following place has been duly registered for the solemnization of marriages therein—Bethel, Llanfhael Nantfran, Breconshire.

BANKRUPTCY.

STEEL, H., Norwich, tea-dealer, to surrender April 10, at 2 o'clock, May 9, at 12, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sol. Mr. Hodgkinson, Little Tower-street. Off. assign. Mr. Stansfield.

GREEN, J., Northampton, carpenter, April 5, at 2 o'clock, May 9 at 12, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sols. Messrs. Willan and Stevenson, Bedford-row. Off. assign. Mr. Graham.

WALLEN, W., jun., Lawrence Pountney-lane, architect, April 3 and May 11, at 12 o'clock, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sols. Messrs. Stevens and Satchell, Queen-street, Cheapside. Off. assign. Mr. Bell, Coleman-street buildings.

HULME, J. Y., Bow-lane, and Upper Grange-walk, Bermondsey, account-book manufacturer, April 7, at 1 o'clock, May 12, at 12, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sols. Messrs. Bridger and Collins, King William-street, London-bridge. Off. assign. Mr. Edwards, Sandbrook-court, Basinghall-street.

RAMSAY, H. M., Elgin-crescent, Kensington Park, builder, April 7, at half-past 12 o'clock, May 12, at 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sol. Mr. James, Basinghall-street. Off. assign. Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street.

RADFORD, T., Noble-street and Manchester, warehouseman, April 5, at 1, May 13, at half-past 12, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sols. Messrs. Sole, Turner, and Turner, Aldermanbury. Off. assign. Mr. Nicholson, Basinghall-street.

GIBBS, C. B., Ecclehall, Staffordshire, grocer, April 30 and May 4, at 10, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Mr. Buttart, Ecclehall; Messrs. Wright, Birmingham. Off. assign. Mr. Bittleson, Birmingham.

ROBSON, R. and J. T., Derby, silk manufacturers, April 7 and 28, at 10, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, at Nottingham. Sols. Messrs. Hudson and Co., Bucklersbury; Messrs. Wright, Birmingham. Off. assign. Mr. Harris, Nottingham.

TURNER, W., Crewkerne, Somersetshire, carrier, April 7, May 4, at 1, at the Exeter District Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Mr. Randall, Lawrence Pountney-lane, and Mr. Gidley, Exeter; Off. assign. Mr. Hirtzel, Exeter.

THURTELL, J. F., Twickenham, dealer in musical instruments, April 7, May 4, at 1, at the Exeter District Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Messrs. Beer and Randle, Devonport, and Mr. Hartnell, Exeter; Off. assign. Mr. Hirtzel, Exeter.

BRADSHAW, W. O., Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, builder, April 12, and May 1, at 12, at the Manchester District Court of Bankruptcy. Sol. Mr. Marsland, Bolton; Off. assign. Mr. Fraser, Manchester.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

BLACKWOOD, J. C., and ROBINSON, T. Birmingham, drapers.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

J. MARSHALL, Southampton, coal merchant—third div. of 7d., any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.

A. W. WYER, late of Twickenham, grocer—first div. of 2s. 9d., any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.

J. and W. ORRIS, Dorking, and Lodge-hill, wholesale perfumers—final div. of 4d., on Thursday, March 30, and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfield's, Basinghall-street.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

A. ROSE, Inverness, ironmonger, April 6, at 12, at the Union Hotel, Inverness.

R. CHAWORTH, Bellagarry, Edinburgh, linen-burner, April 6, at 12, at the Kippen's Inn, Midcalder.

J. MOORE and T. FOSCO, Kilmarnock, calico printers, April 4, at 1, at the Black Ball Inn, Kilmarnock.

C. ALBERT and DOUGLAS, Glasgow, lodging-house keeper, April 10, at 1, at the George Hotel, Glasgow.

Markets.

MARK-LANE, MONDAY, March 27, 1854.

There was an extremely small supply of English Wheat offering this morning, but 100,000 qrs. of foreign, nearly all from the North Sea and Baltic Ports, have arrived during the past week. We quote all descriptions of Wheat 2s. to 3s. per qr. lower than on Monday last, but there was more trade to-day than on Friday. Flour was readily sold at the reduction of 1s. per barrel upon last Monday's prices. In barley little doing. Beans and Peas much the same as on Monday last. The arrivals of Oats during the past week have been very large, we reduce our quotations 1s. per qr. from last Monday, but there was a better demand to-day at our quotations. Tares dull and cheaper as the season is nearly over. Clover seeds met with buyers at about former rates. The current prices as under.

BAITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—		Dantzic	75 to 84
Essex and Kent, Red	68 to 76	Konigsberg, Red	72 to 80
Ditto White	66 to 78	Pomeranian, Red	72 to 76
Lincoln, Norfolk, &		Rostock	72 to 76
Yorkshire Red	74 to 84	Dantzic & Holsteth	68 to 72
Northumb. & Scotch	74 to 84	East Prussian	64 to 68
Eye	46 to 50	Petersburg	62 to 70
Barley malted (new)	38 to 42	Riga and Archangel	48 to 54
Distilling	31 to 35	Polish Odessa	62 to 70
Malt (pale)	40 to 50	Marianopol.	68 to 72
Beans, Masagan.	33 to 34	Taganrog	56 to 60
Ticks	40 to 42	Egyptian	40 to 44
Harrow	42 to 44	American (U.S.)	72 to 80
Pigeon	42 to 44	Barley Pomeranian	30 to 34
Peas, White	50 to 52	Konigsberg	32 to 34
Grey	46 to 48	Danish	32 to 38
Maple	46 to 48	East Prussian	28 to 30
Rollers	42 to 44	Egyptian	24 to 26
Tares (English)	30 to 32	Odessa	24 to 26
Foreign	34 to 36		
Oats (English seed)	26 to 30		
Flour, town made, per			
Sack, of 80 lbs.	50 to 58		
Linseed, English	58 to 60		
Baltic	60 to 62		
Black Sea	62 to 64		
Hempseed	34 to 40		
Canaryseed	32 to 36		
Cloverseed per cwt. of			
112 lbs. English	54 to 56		
German	46 to 48		
French	42 to 44		
American	44 to 46		
Linseed Cakes	21s 10 to 21s 4		
Rape Cake	26 10 to 27 per ton		
Rapeseed	22s to 23s per last		

BUTCHERS' MEAT, SHERIFFS, MONDAY, MARCH 27.

The supply of foreign stock on sale in to-day's market was very moderate, and in but middling condition. On the whole, the

demand for it ruled steady at full prices. There was a slight increase in the receipts of Beasts fresh up this morning from our own grazing districts; whilst in their general weight and condition a decided improvement was noticed. Although the attendance of buyers was rather numerous, the demand for all breeds of Beasts was less active than on Monday last, and in most instances prices gave way 2d. per 8lbs. The general top figure for Scots was 2s. 6d. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 2,190 Scots and Shorthorns; from other parts of England, 800 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 309 horned and polled Scots. Notwithstanding there was an increased number of Sheep in the market, the Mutton trade was firm, and in some instances the quotations advanced 2d. per 8lbs. The demand principally ran upon clipped Sheep, which sold at about 8d. per 8lbs. under those in the wool. The prime old Downs, realized 6s. to 6s. 3d. per 8 lbs., the latter being rather an extreme figure. Lambs were in moderate supply, and brisk demand, at from 5s. 4d. to 7s. per 8lbs. The sale for Calves ruled steady, at very full prices. The supply was limited. The highest figure was 6s. 8d. per 8lbs.

We had a slow inquiry for Pigs, in the value of which no change took place.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals.

Coarse and inferior		Prime coarse wool-	
Beasts	3 2 3 4	led Sheep	4 3 4 10
Second quality do.	3 6 3 8	Prime South Down	—
Prime large Oxen	3 10 4 2	Sheep	5 0 5 2
Prime Scots, &c.	4 4 4 6	Large coarse Calves	4 6 5 2
Coarse and inferior	—	Prime small do.	5 4 5 6
Sheep	3 8 3 10	Large Hogs	3 0 4 2
Second quality do.	4 0 4 6	Neat small Pockers	4 4 4 8

Suckling Calves 22s. to 28s.; and quarter-old store Pigs, 21s. to 27s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, March 27.—Since this day's night, these markets have been seasonably well supplied with each kind of meat, for which the demand had ruled steady, as follows:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

Inferior Beef		Inferior Mutton	
do.	3 0 3 4	Middling do.	3 2 3 4
Middling do.	3 6 3 8	Prime do.	4 2 4 4
Prime large do.	3 10 4 0	Veal	4 0 5 4
Do. small do.	4 0 4 2	Small Pork	4 4 4 8
Large Pork	3 4 4 2		

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, March 27.—The weather was very cold and winterly last week. Irish Butter was in consequence more in demand, and sales were made to a fair extent of Limerick, and smaller descriptions, at from 88s. to 90s., as in quality; and last Cork in a retail way at 104s. to 106s. Foreign met buyers for nearly all that arrived, at 72s. to 112s. Irish singed Bacon sold slowly at 54s. to 60s.; American offered at 50s. to 52s.; middle, 48s. to 50s. Hams were more dealt in at from 62s. to 72s. Lard, blandered, 66s. to 72s.; kegs, 50s. to 62s., and dull.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

Friesland per cwt.		Cheshire (new)	
108 to 112		67 to 80	
Kiel	106 to 112	Cheddar	68 to 80
Dorset (new)	104 to 116	Double Gloucester	64 to 72
Carlow do.	98 to 108	Single do.	60 to 70
Waterford do.	94 to 100	York Hams (new)	76 to 86
Cork do.	93 to 104	Westmoreland do.	72 to 82
Limerick do.	86 to 96	Irish do.	70 to 78
Sligo do.	96 to 104	Wiltshire Bacon (green)	62 to 64
Fresh Butter per doz.	13 to 16	Waterford Bacon	56 to 61

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, March 27.—These markets continue to be fairly supplied with most kinds of potatoes. The demand is by no means active. In prices no material change has taken place. York Regents, 130s. to 165s.; Kent and Essex ditto, 120s. to 150s. Scotch ditto, 115s. to 125s.; ditto Cops, 110s. to 130s. Irish, 100s. to 115s. Foreign, 100s. to 115s. per ton. Last week's imports were 30 tons from Hambro', 160 tons from Rotterdam, 1 from Dublin, 90 from Belfast, and 1 from Limerick.

BREAD.—The prices of Wheaten Bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 11d.; and Household ditto 8d. to 9d. per 4ths loaf.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday March 27.—The demand for all fine Hops has continued moderate during the week, and fully as much money for such descriptions has been obtained. In inferior qualities scarcely anything is doing.

TALLOW, Monday, March 27.—Our market is very firm, and prices are considerably higher than on Monday last. P.Y.C. on the spot, 68s. 6d. per cwt. Town Tallow is 65s. 6d. net cash; Rough Fat 5s. 7d. per 8lbs.

Particulars of Tallow.

	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.
Stock	32,108	36,378	43,104	37,540	35,803
Price of Y.C.	36s. 9d. to 37s. 3d.	40s. 0d. to 40s. 6d.	35s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.	44s. 6d. to 45s. 6d.	36s. 6d. to 37s. 3d.
Delivery last week	1,402	1,614	1,339	1,772	1,033
Ditto from 1st June	81,587	82,788	93,526	86,618	83,954
Arrival last week	968	457	—	252	1,353
Ditto from 1st June	88,104	93,577	100,796	79,555	97,000
Price of Town	39s. 6d.	41s. 6d.	38s. 0d.	46s. 9d.	47s. 6d.

Advertisements.

EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES,

King-street, Leicester.—The MISSES MIALI, whose School has been established for many years, will have VACANCIES for BOARDERS after the present quarter. The advantages enjoyed by their Pupils are of a superior order, affording them a liberal and solid education; the strictest attention being paid to the formation of their character, and to their moral and religious training. The course of instruction pursued in this Establishment is based upon the principle of natural and careful cultivation, rather than of constrained exertion—of developing the characteristic capabilities of the children under their care, rendering their studies a pleasure rather than a task.

TERMS, THIRTY-FIVE GUINEAS PER ANNUM.

The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment.

References:—Rev. G. Legge, LL.D., Rev. J. P. Mursell, and Rev. J. Smedmore, Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Manchester; Mr. Sunderland, Ashton-under-Lyne; and their brothers, Rev. J. G. Miall, Bradford, Rev. G. R. Miall, Ullesthorpe, and E. Miall, M.P., Editor of the *Nonconformist*, Sydenham-park.

The next Quarter will commence on the 3rd of April.

MILTON HALL ACADEMY, NORTH-

AMPTON. An ASSISTANT is Wanted for the above Establishment. He must be competent to teach Latin and French, and take part in the regular duties of the school. Good references required.—Apply, stating salary expected, &c., to J. DYER, Newland, Northampton.

March 25th, 1854.

REGENT'S-PARK.—Mrs. BURR and Miss

HARDING CONTINUE TO RECEIVE a Limited Number of Young Ladies, at their Educational Establishment in the above delightful vicinity. Terms, £25 per annum.

Particulars and References, on application, 14, Gloucester-crescent, Regent's-park.

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London, Dec. 2, 1847.

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